

THE ADVENTURES OF
KID LUCKY

BASED ON THE CHARACTERS OF MORRIS

**FOLLOW
THE ARROW**



Europe
COMICS

Aché
4

WANTED



HURRICANE LISETTE

Nothing scares her, except a bar of soap and playing with dolls.

WANTED



LITTLE CACTUS

Proud ecologist ahead of his time.
His motto: The best things in life are free.

WANTED



BILLY BAD

His ambition: become the greatest outlaw in the West. He just might do it.

WANTED



KID LUCKY

A future Western legend. When it comes to spankings, he runs faster than his shadow.

WANTED



JOANNIE MOSLON

As snobbish as a tenderfoot and as jealous as a wolverine, truly a model young lady!

WANTED



DOPEY

As alert as a grizzly in the winter, and as faithful as a mule!

WANTED



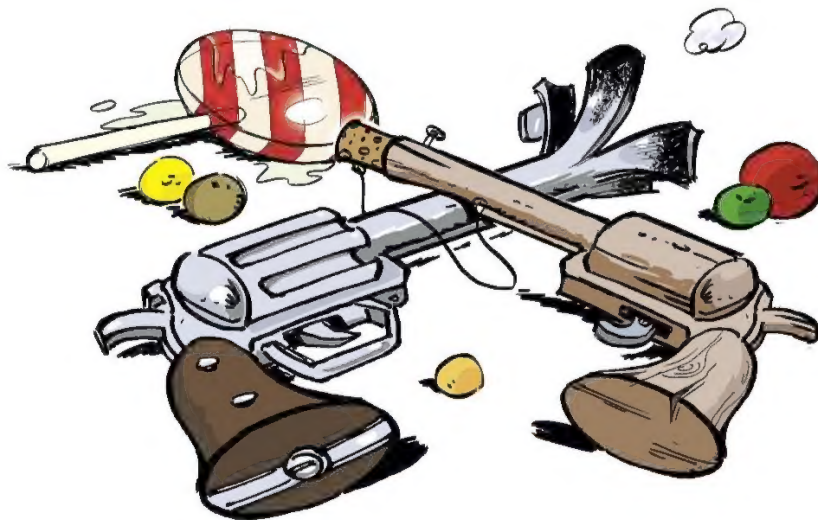
PAQUITO

He's got a sombrero, but he's not somber. In fact, he's just the opposite, caramba!

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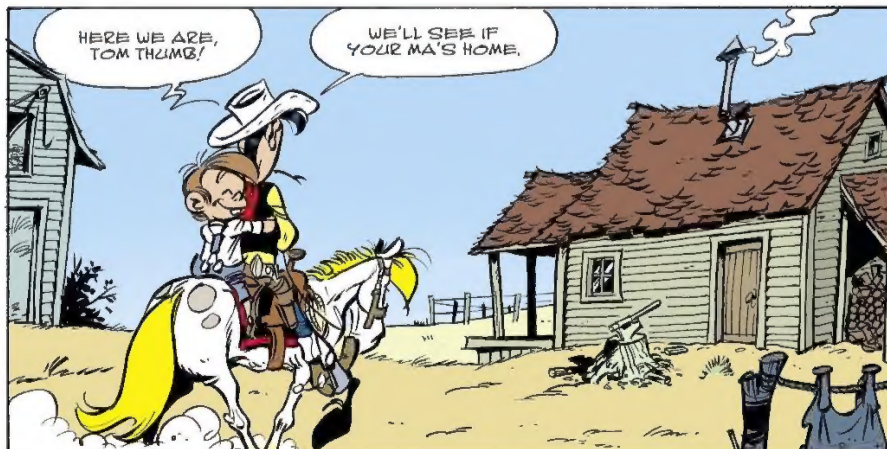
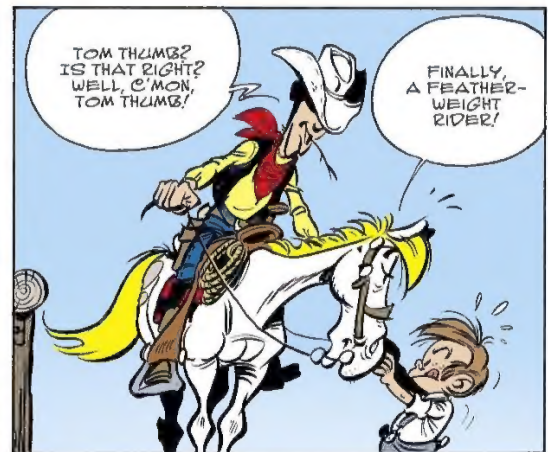
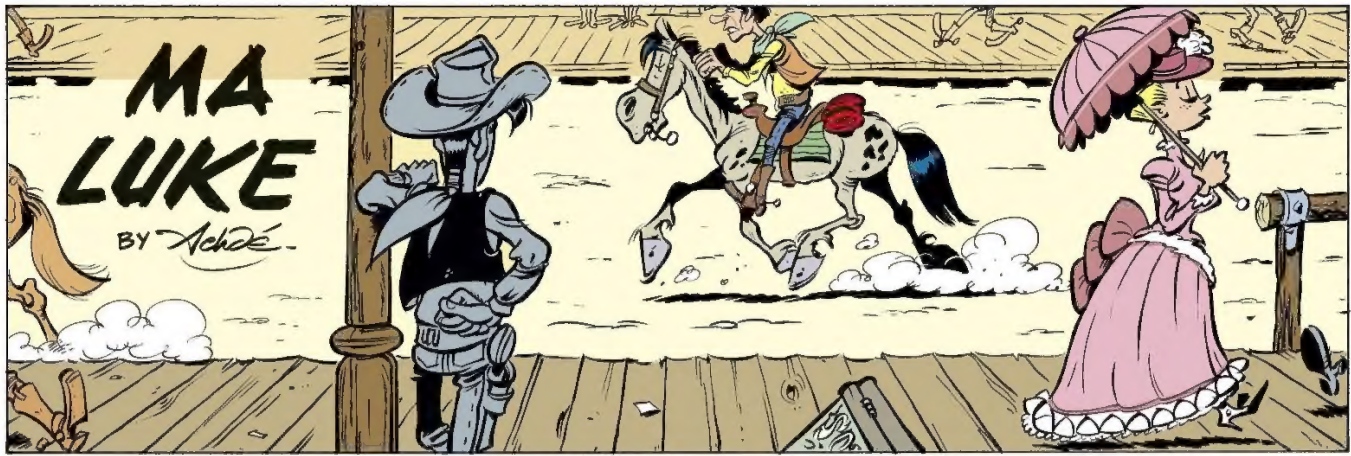
FOLLOW THE ARROW

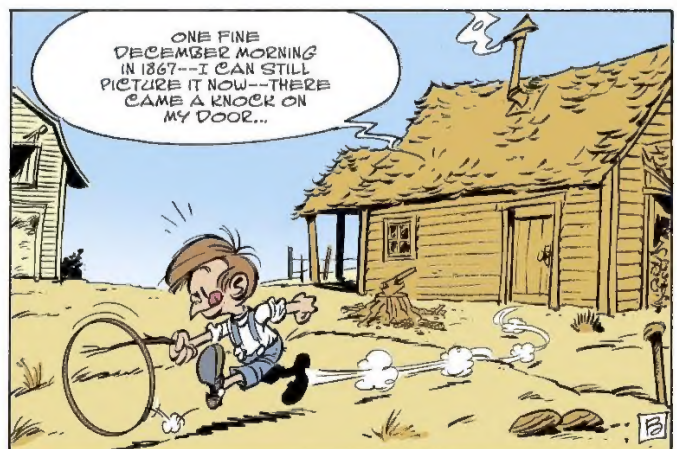
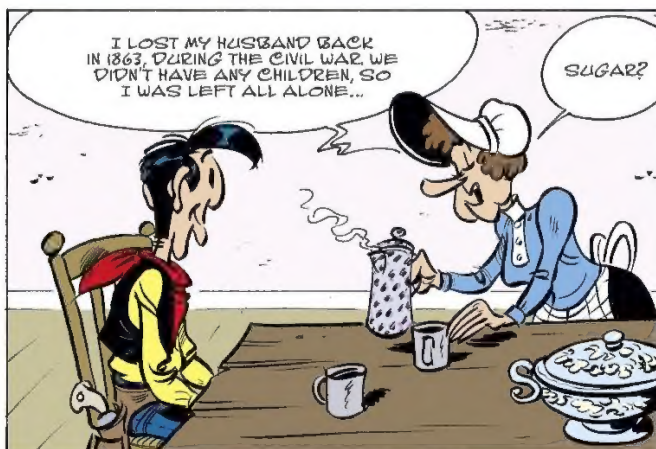
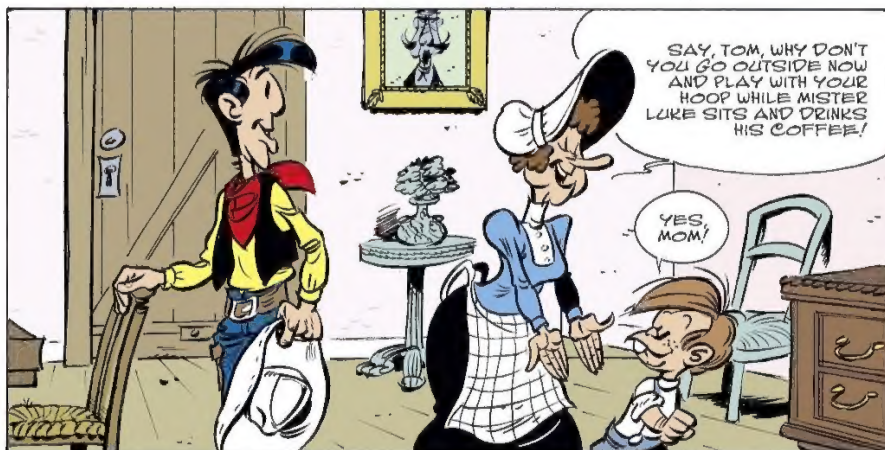
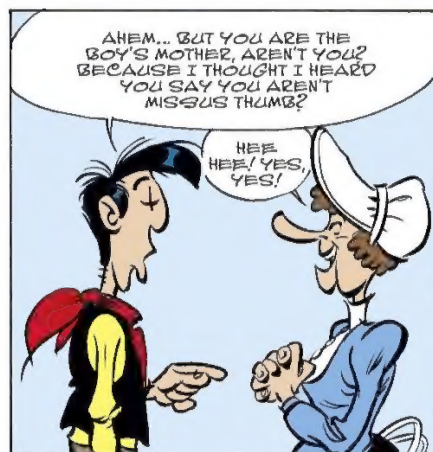
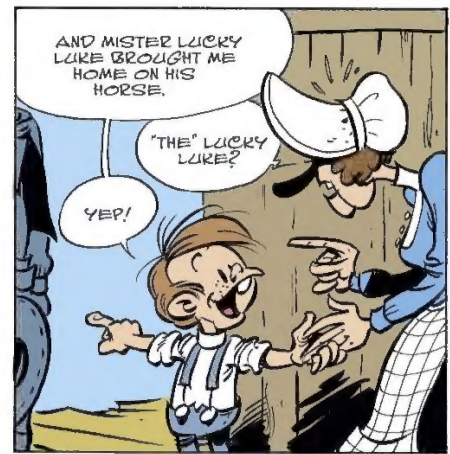
Writer and artist: ACHDÉ



Colorist: MEL









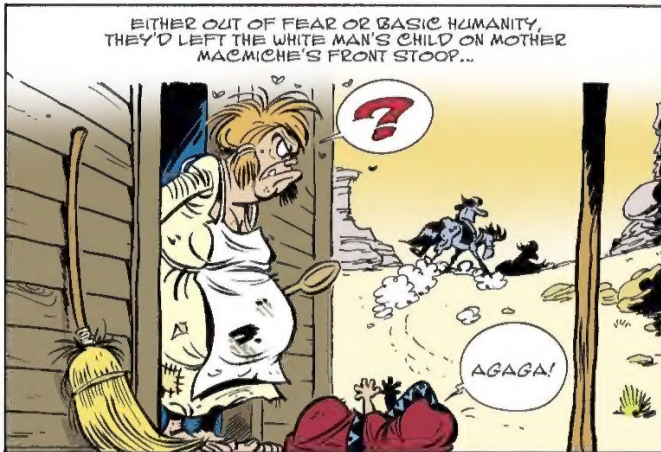
IT WAS JACOB MARSH,
OUR OLD SHERIFF.



HE HANDED ME A BUNDLE,
AND INSIDE IT THERE WAS A BABY.



HE'D BEEN DISCOVERED BY INDIANS
IN THE WRECKAGE OF A WAGON DOWN
AT THE BOTTOM OF A CANYON...



EITHER OUT OF FEAR OR BASIC HUMANITY,
THEY'D LEFT THE WHITE MAN'S CHILD ON MOTHER
MACMICHE'S FRONT STOOP...



BUT THE CHARMING YOUNG
LADY LIVED ALONE WITH HER
FOUR, SOON TO BE FIVE, KIDS.
SO, IN AN ACT OF KINDNESS,
SHE LET THE SHERIFF KNOW,
AND JACOB KNEW I WAS
THE ONLY ONE IN THE
VALLEY WHO COULD
TAKE IN THE
ORPHAN...



I ACCEPTED MY ROLE AS HIS GUARDIAN.
THE BABY WAS SO LITTLE I NAMED HIM TOM
THUMB. ALL THE WHILE, JACOB KEPT TRYING
TO FIND HIS FAMILY...



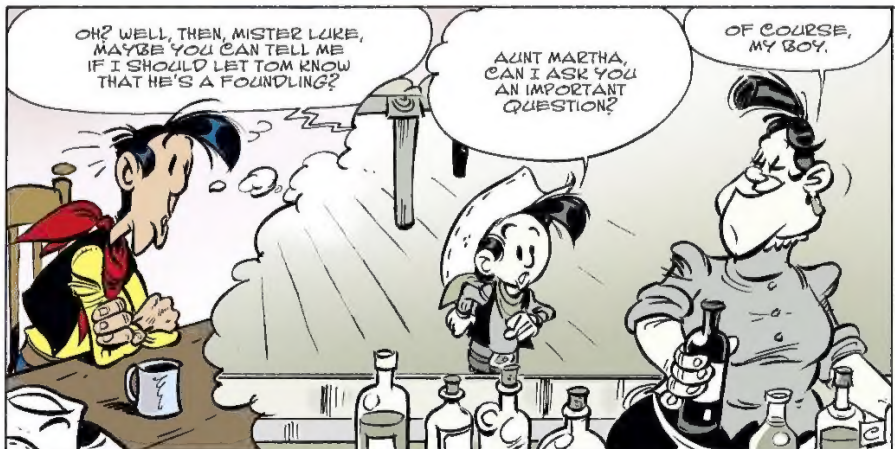
BUT AS THE WEEKS, MONTHS,
AND EVENTUALLY YEARS WENT
BY, I SLOWLY BECAME HIS
ADOPTIVE MOTHER.



I DIDN'T DARE GIVE HIM
MY NAME IN CASE SOME DAY
ONE OF HIS RELATIVES SHOWED
UP. SO I CAN'T RIGHTLY SAY
THAT I'M HIS REAL MOM.



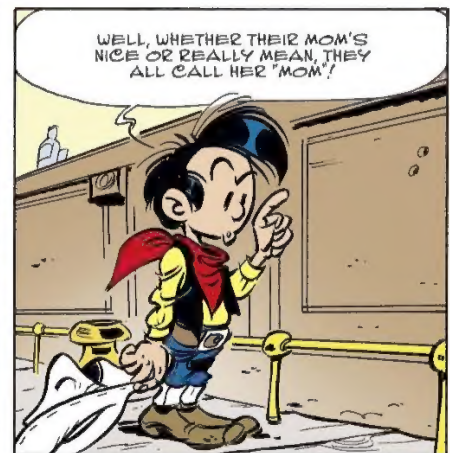
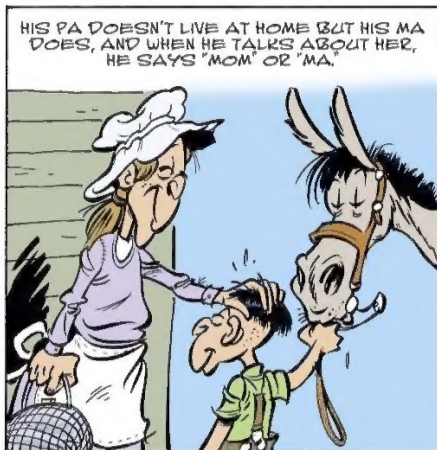
THE WEST IS TOUGH,
MA'AM, AND LOTS OF
KIDS HAVE HAD A
ROUGH START
IN LIFE. I KNOW
A THING OR TWO
ABOUT THAT...



OH? WELL, THEN, MISTER LIKE,
MAYBE YOU CAN TELL ME
IF I SHOULD LET TOM KNOW
THAT HE'S A FOUNDLING?

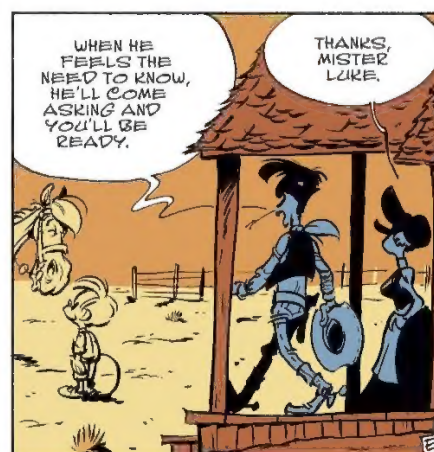
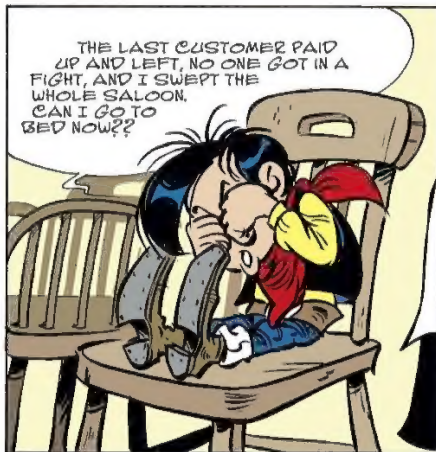
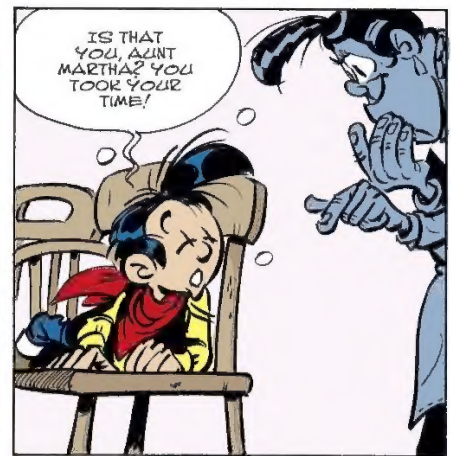
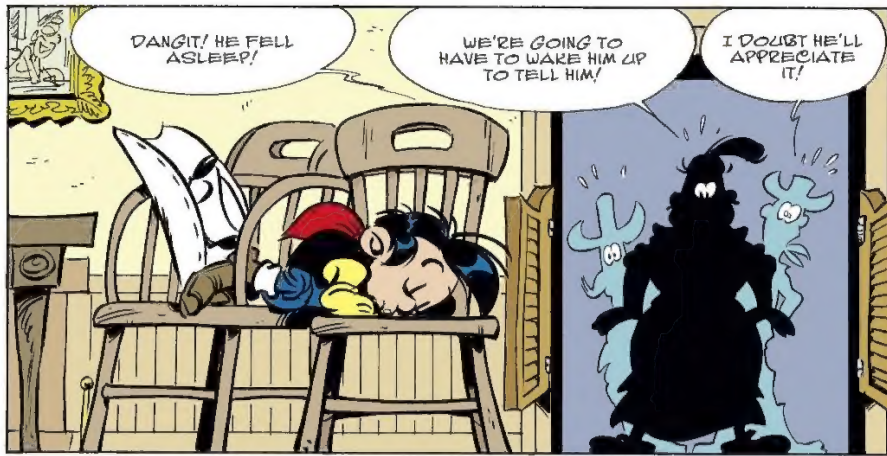
AUNT MARTHA,
CAN I ASK YOU
AN IMPORTANT
QUESTION?

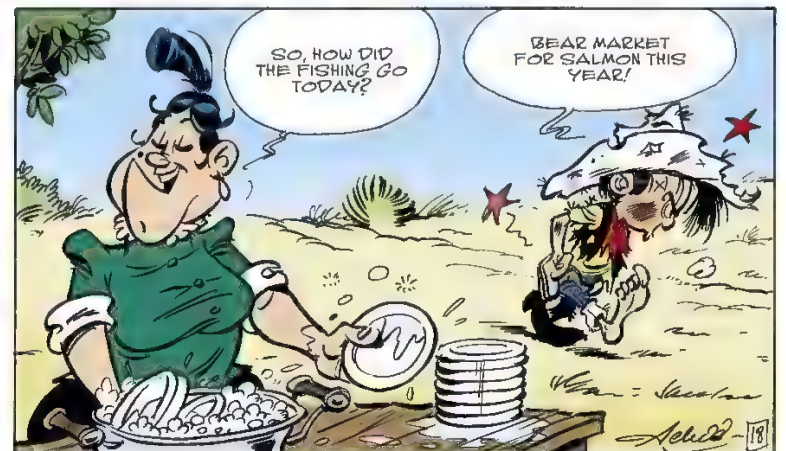
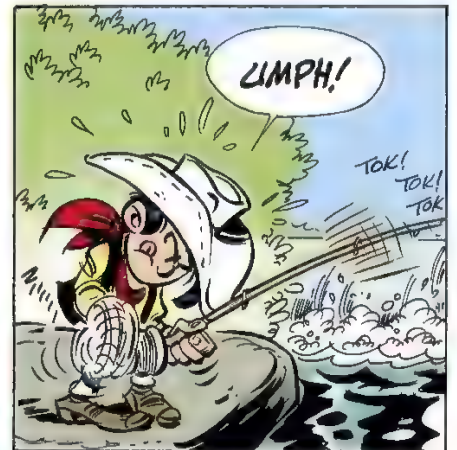
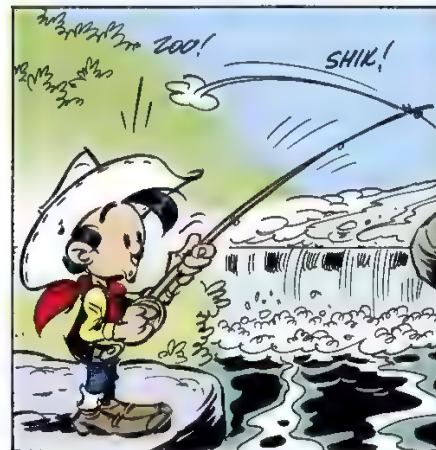
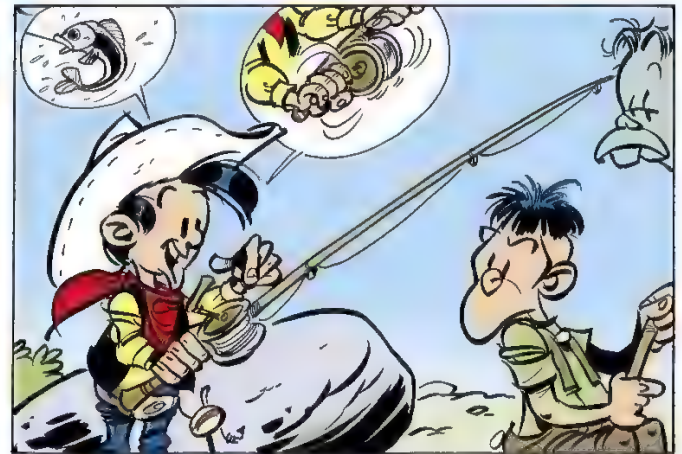
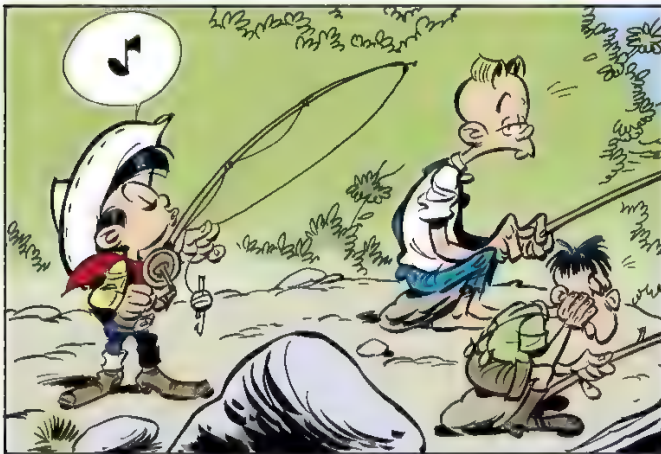
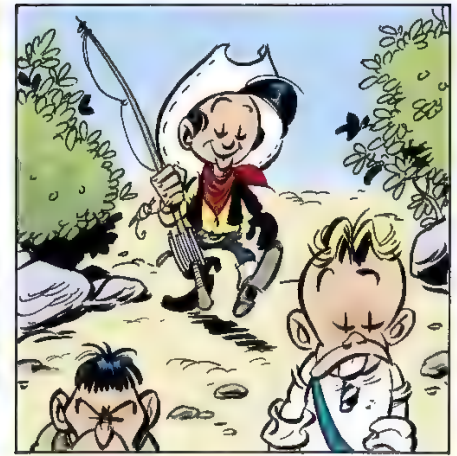
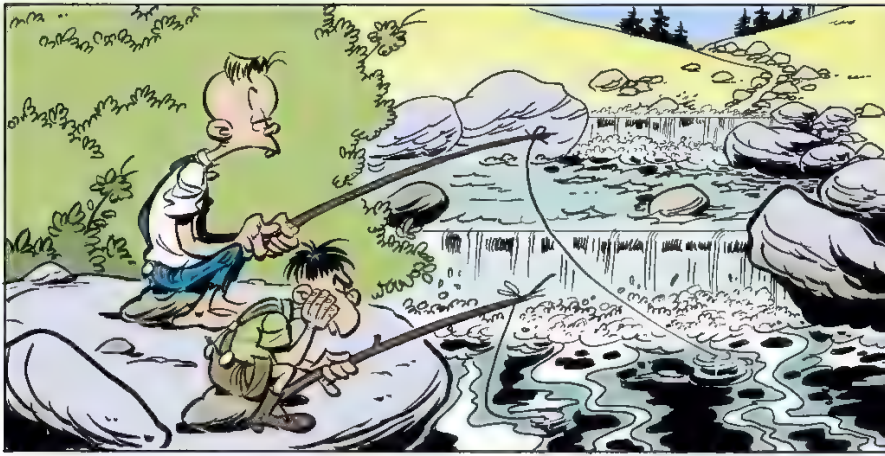
OF COURSE,
MY BOY.



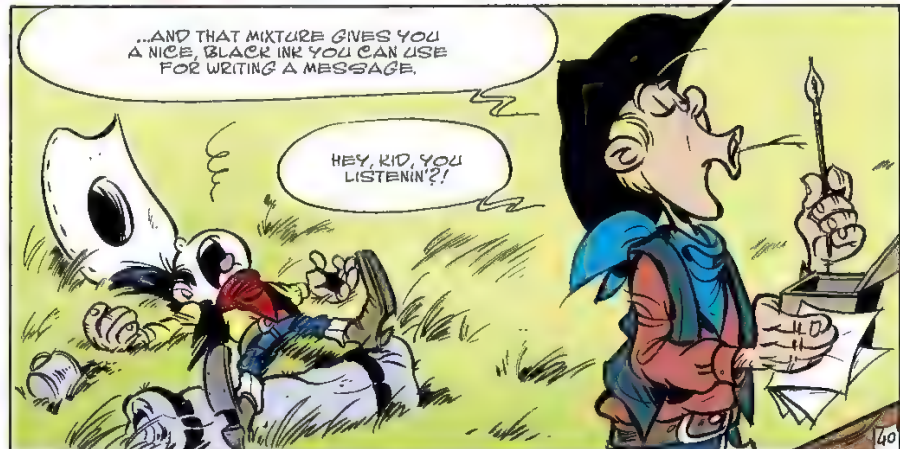
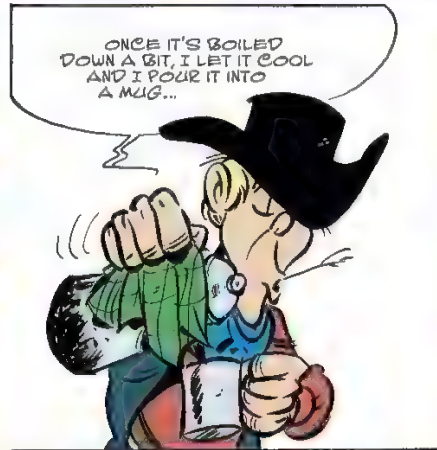
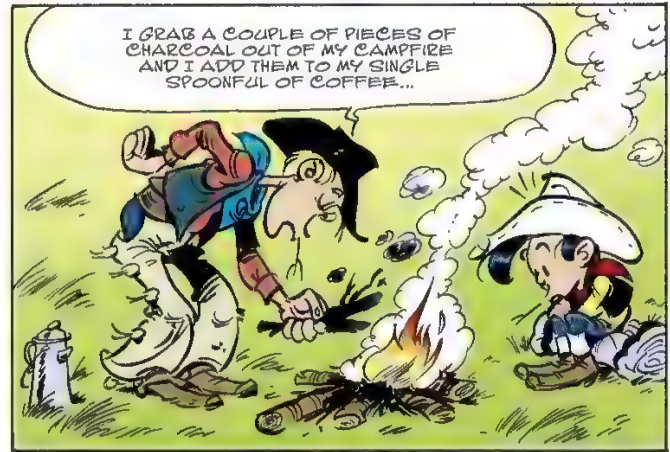
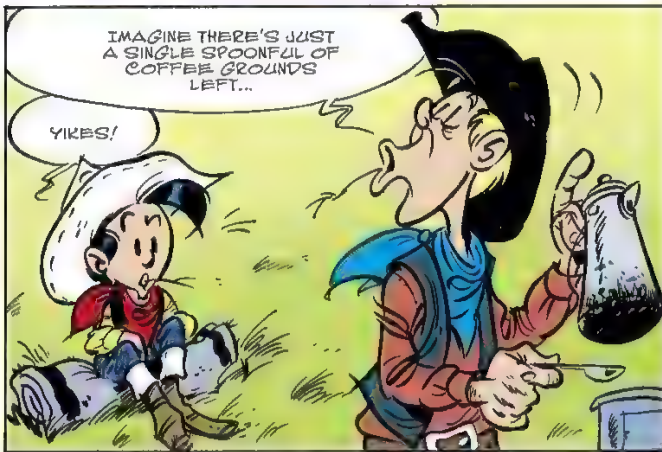
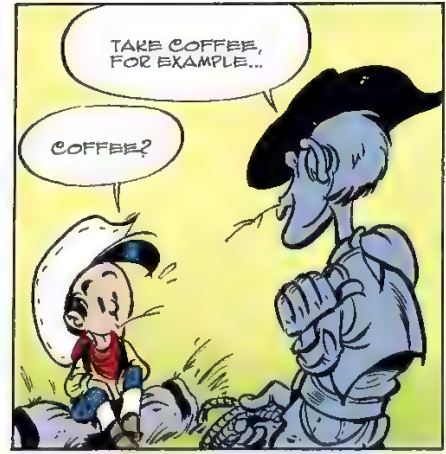
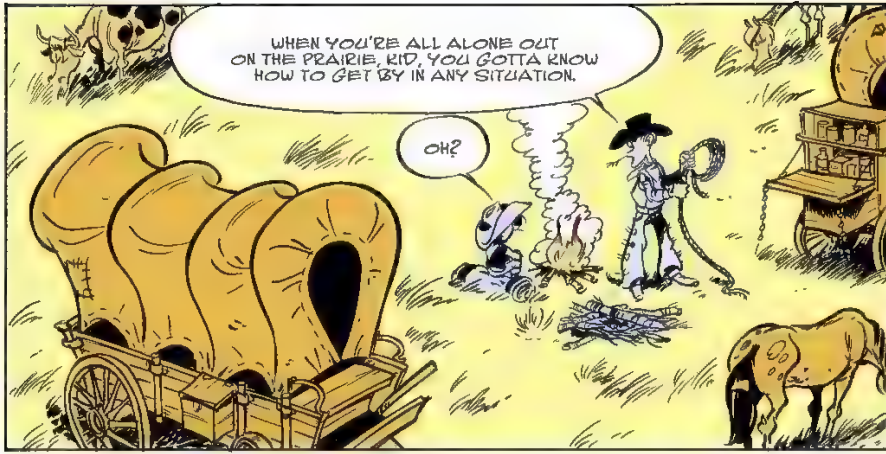


*SEE VOL. 1, "COWBOY IN TRAINING"



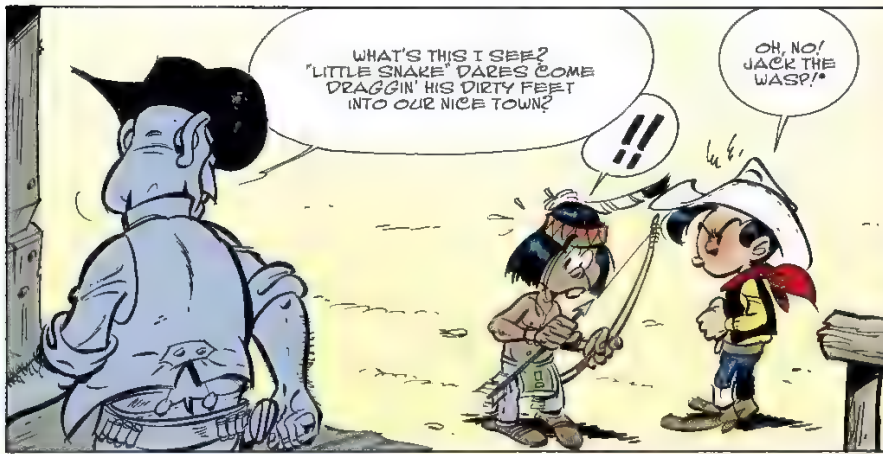


Would you believe? Fishing reels are an English invention. In the past, clockmakers made them, but it was the Americans who improved upon them in the middle of the 19th century and later invented the automatic reel.



Would you believe? Ink made from charcoal has been around in China for more than two thousand years. In Europe, it first appeared in the 12th century and was made from oak gall. Squid ink was also used, which turns brown over time.

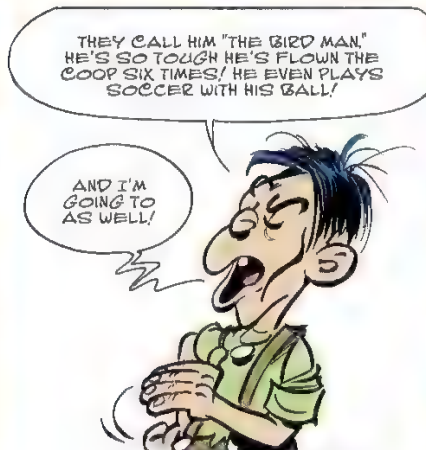
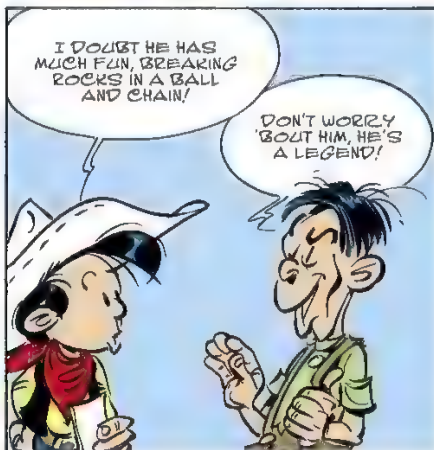
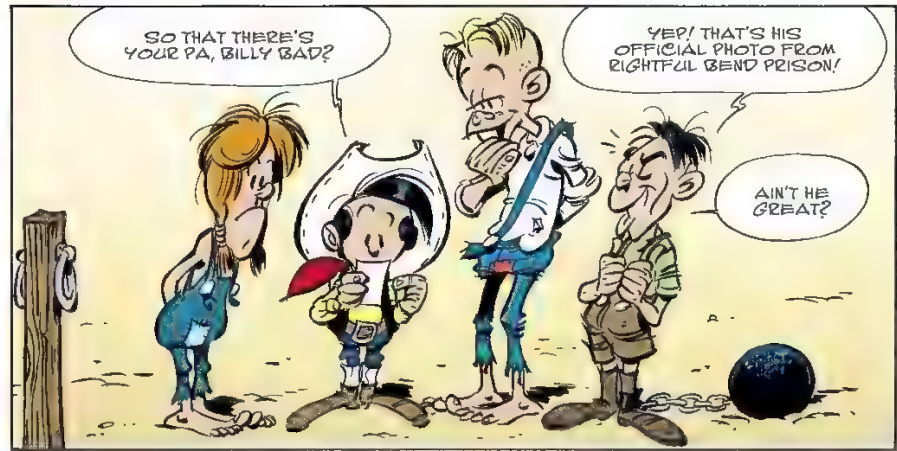
Adrian 47



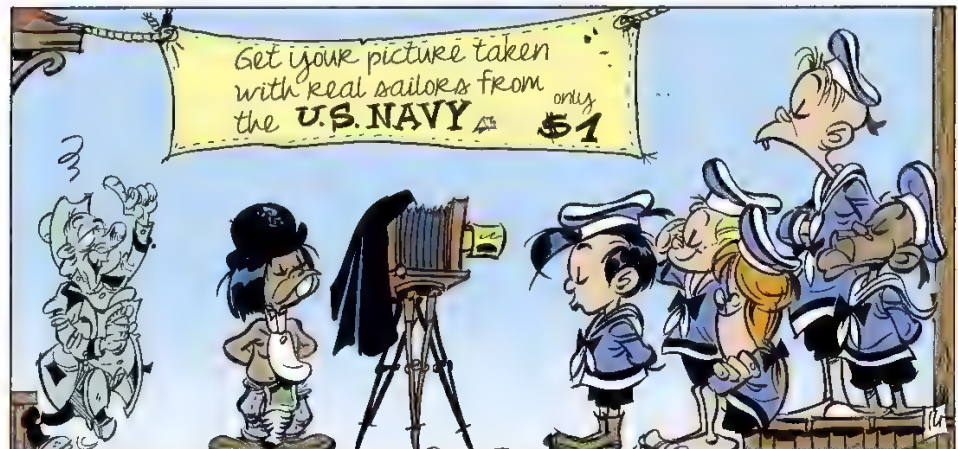
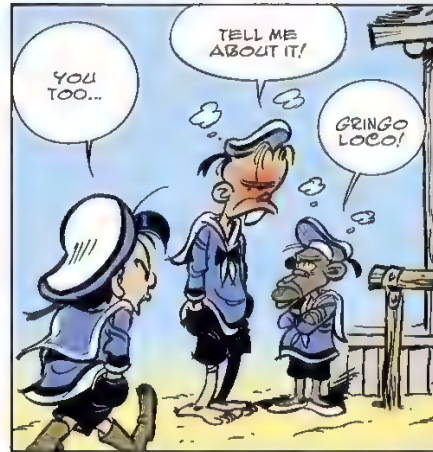
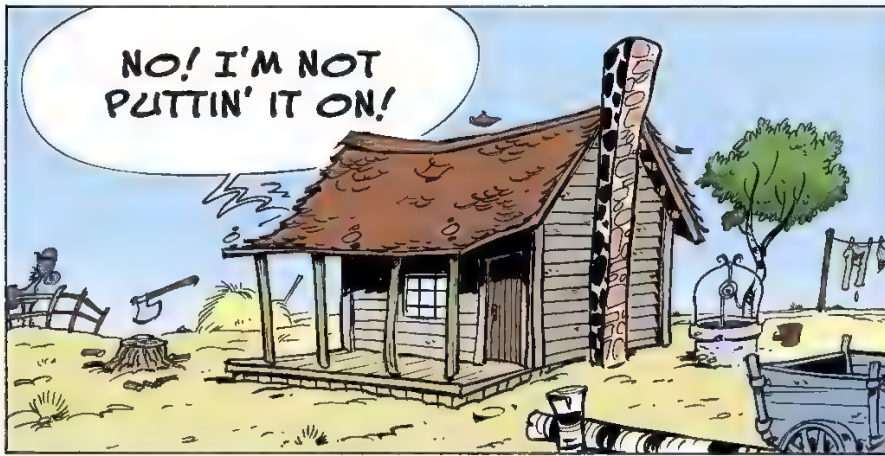
*SEE VOL. 3, "STATUE SQUAW"



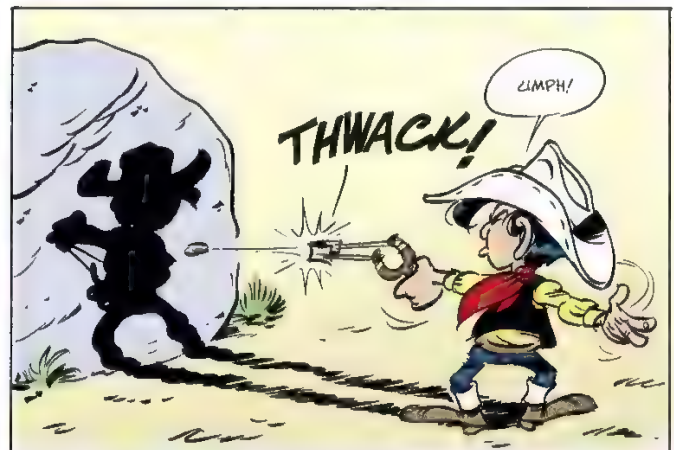
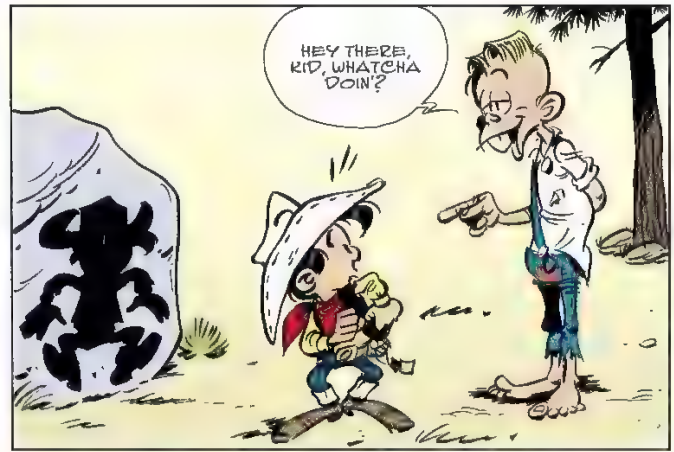
Would you believe? The bow and arrow was the INDIANS' weapon of choice. As far as speed and precision were concerned, it was far superior to the white man's firearms until 1850, when the first revolvers appeared.



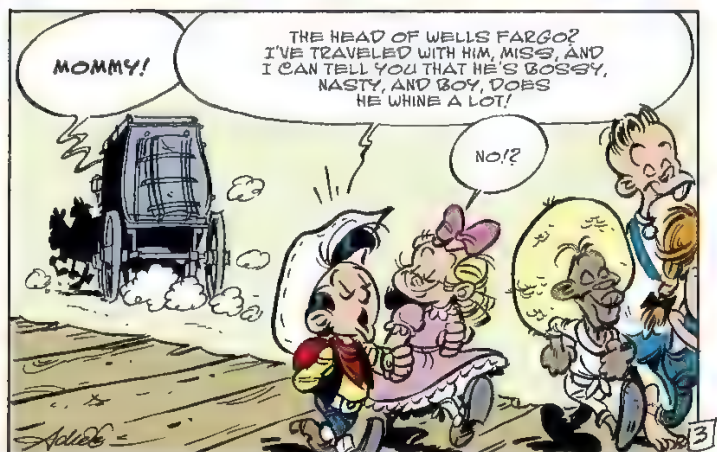
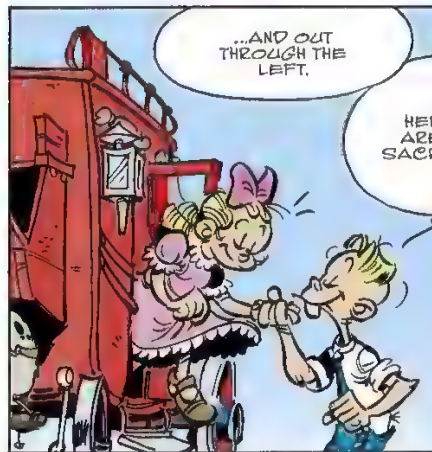
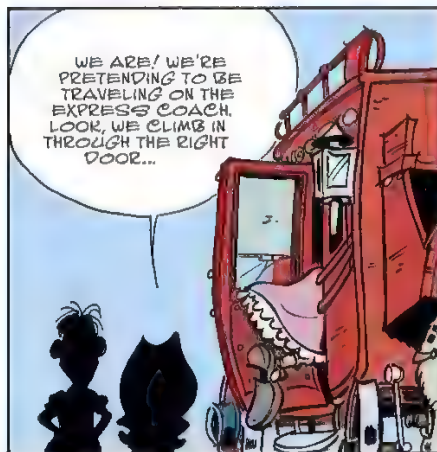
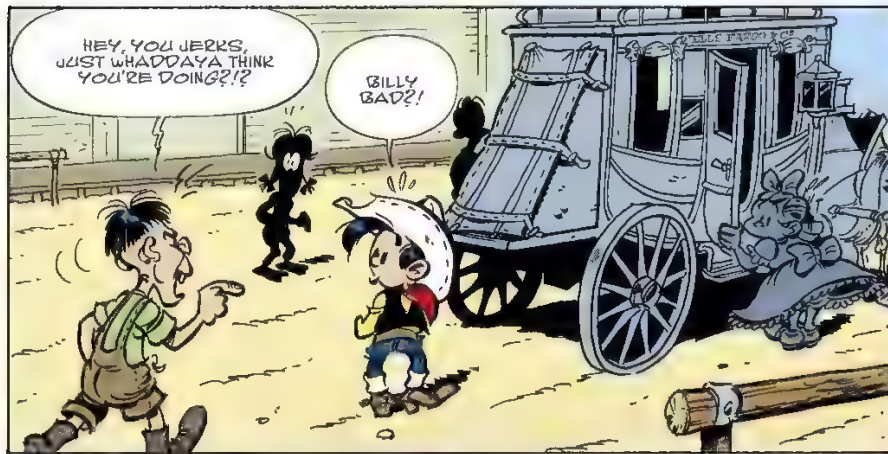
Would you believe? The ball and chain is a (shameful) British invention that was exported to America and still used even after the Second World War. As for chains, they were still being used on prisoners in Alabama in 1995.



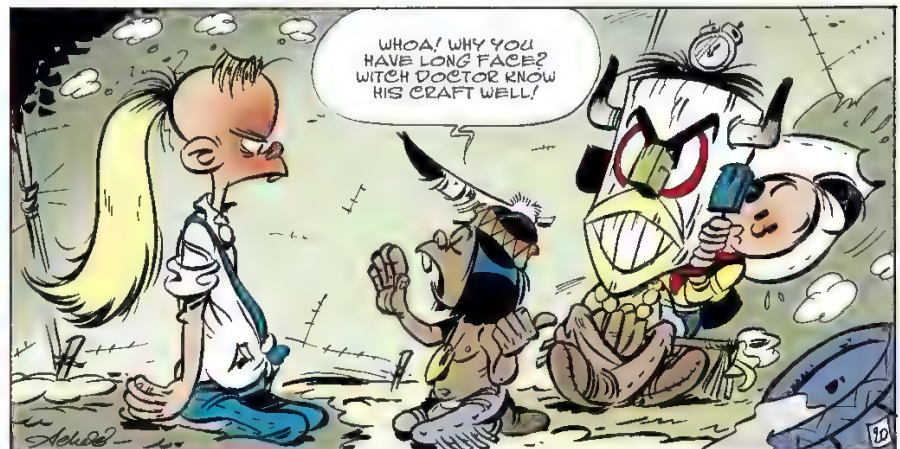
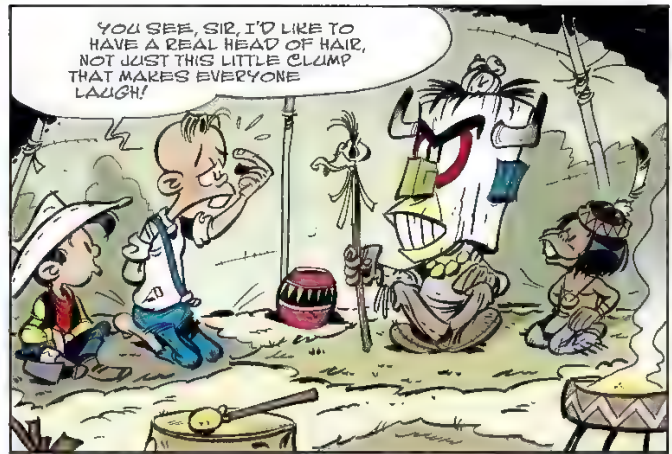
Would you believe? In the 19th century, sailors' outfits were all the rage for boys. They weren't great, but it could have been worse: a clown costume or a jester's outfit!



Would you believe? Legend has it that Lucky Luke is "the man who draws faster than his shadow." But we've never seen any YouTube videos to prove it!



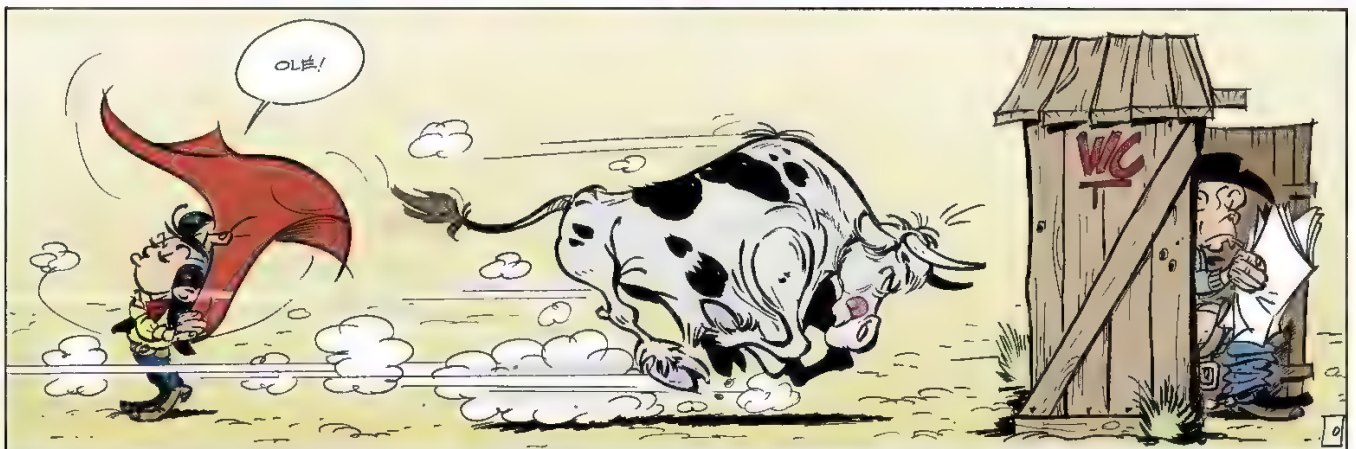
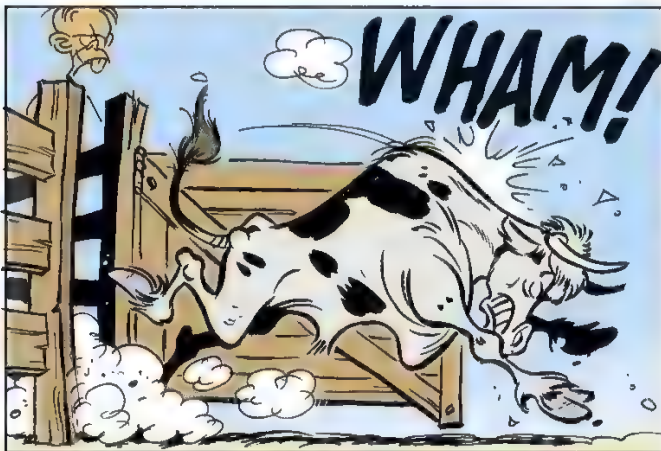
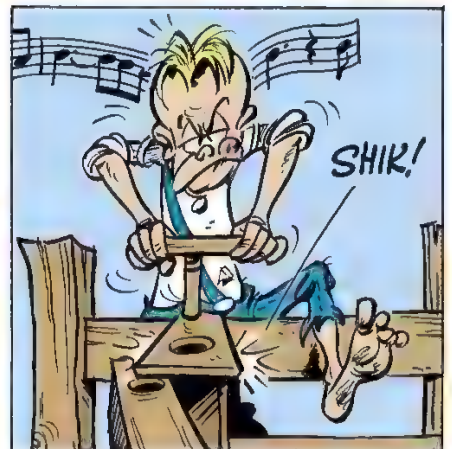
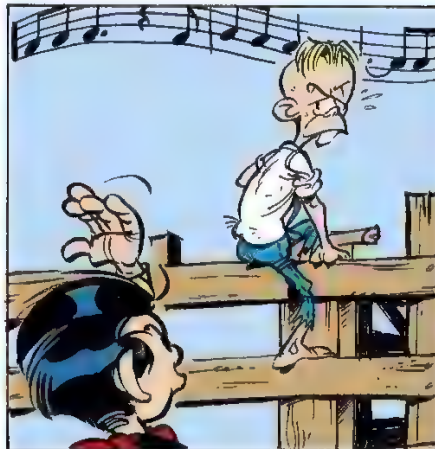
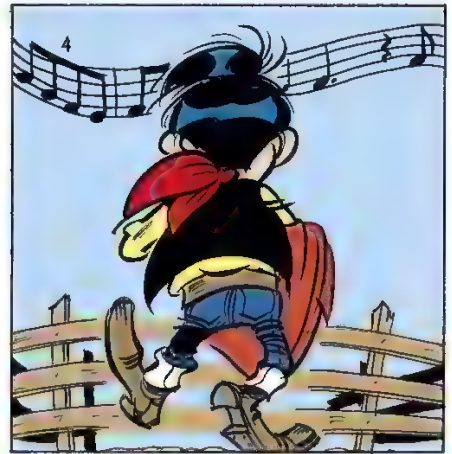
Would you believe? Unlike in Europe, the West had mostly dirt roads. That's why there weren't any windowpanes in Wells Fargo coaches: they would have shattered as soon as the coach hit the first pothole!



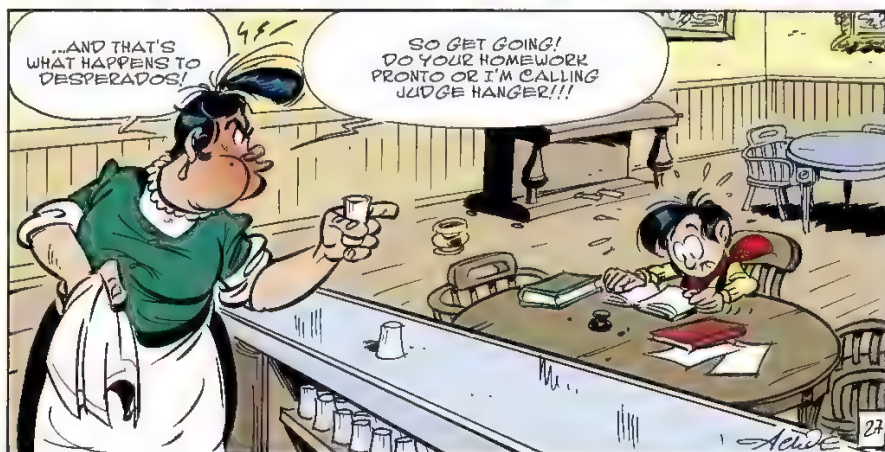
Would you believe? Dopey really shouldn't complain: a mare named Maud had a mane that was 18 feet long! You can imagine how long it took to brush and comb it every morning!



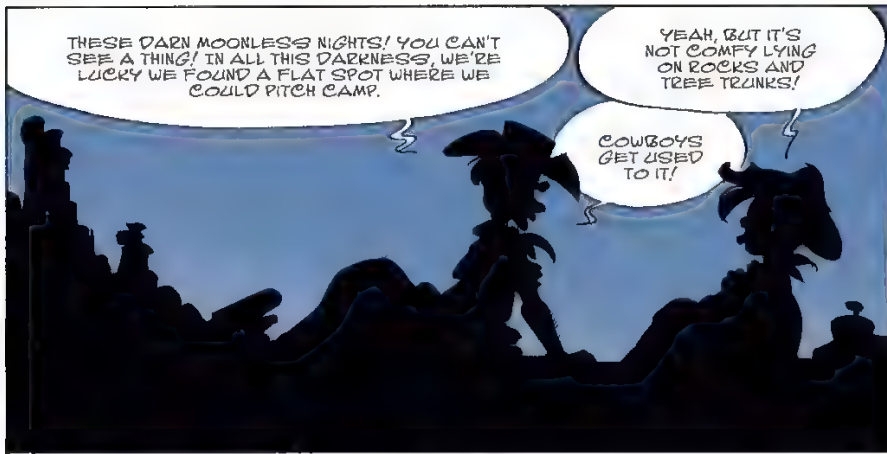
*DRAMATIC TRUMPET MUSIC...



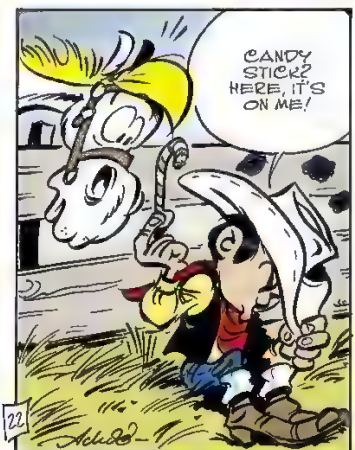
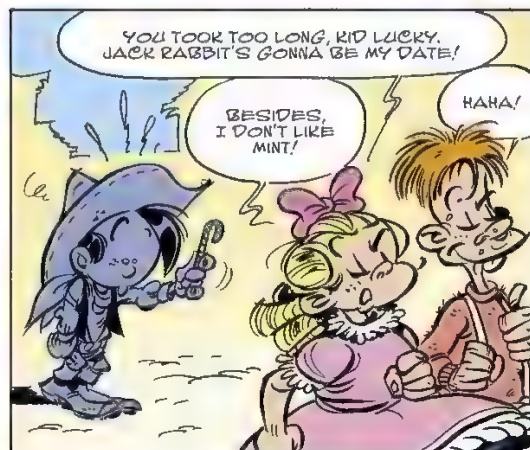
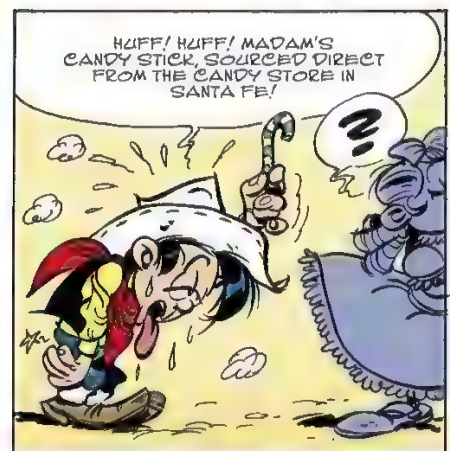
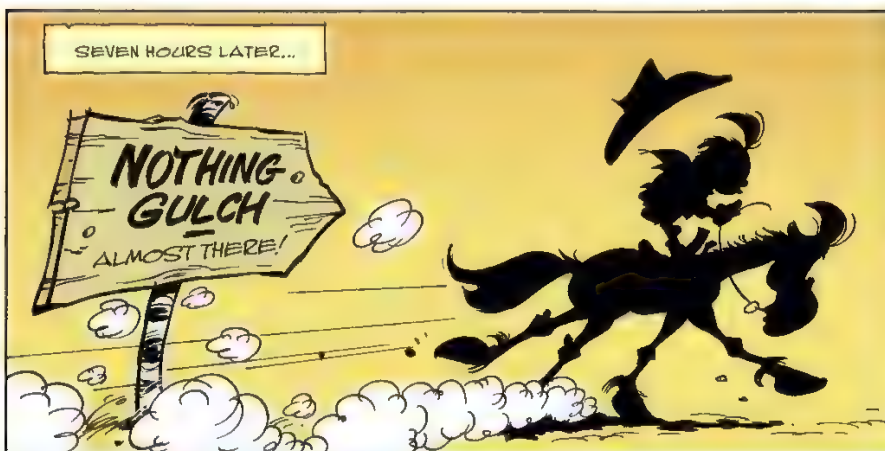
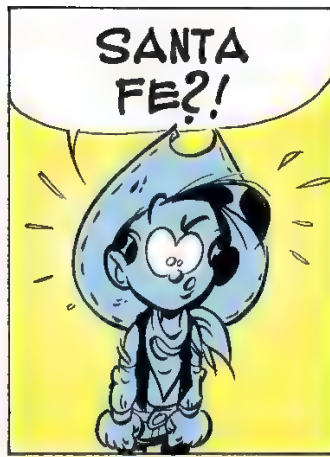
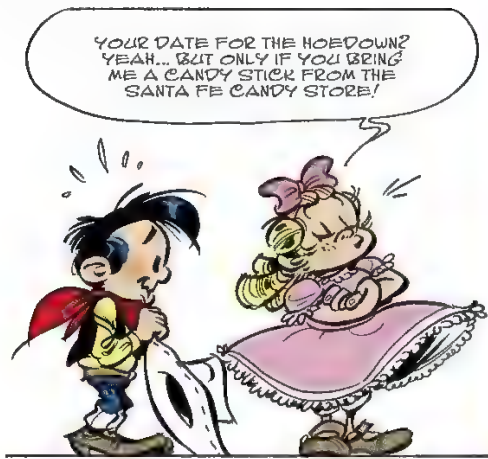
Would you believe? Americans have never been great fans of bullfighting, but Mexicans sure are. As for Cuba, the Americans outlawed bullfighting there in 1899 and replaced it with a different activity... baseball!



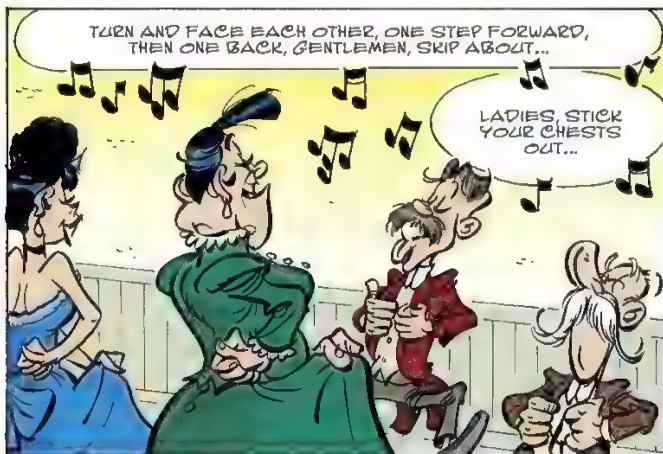
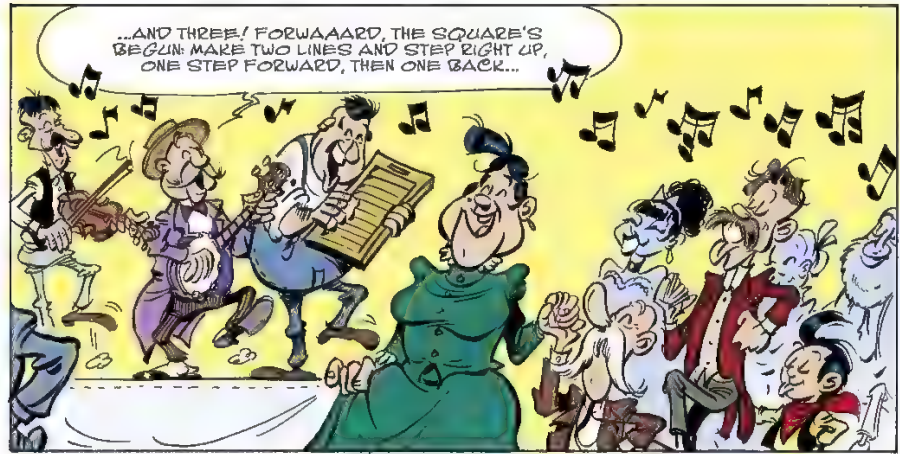
Would you believe? Gabriel March Granados, a mailman by trade, received the longest prison sentence ever: 384,912 years for not delivering 42,768 letters! Thank goodness he only spent fourteen years behind bars.



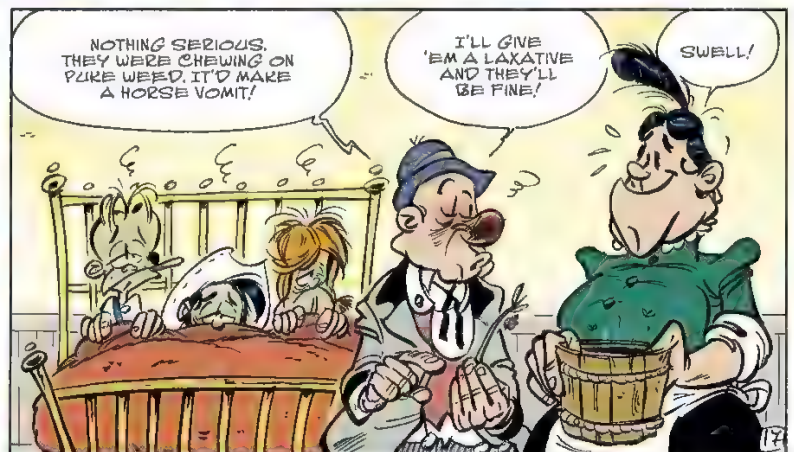
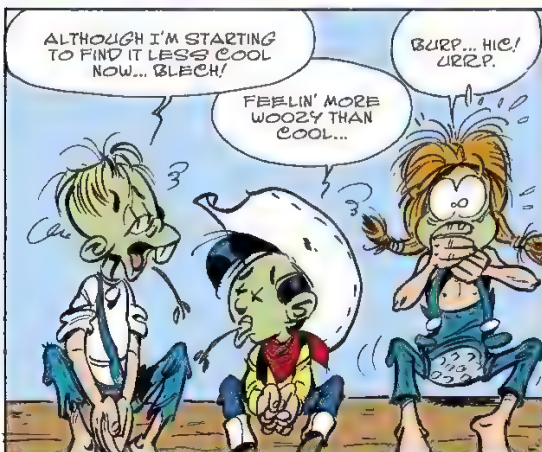
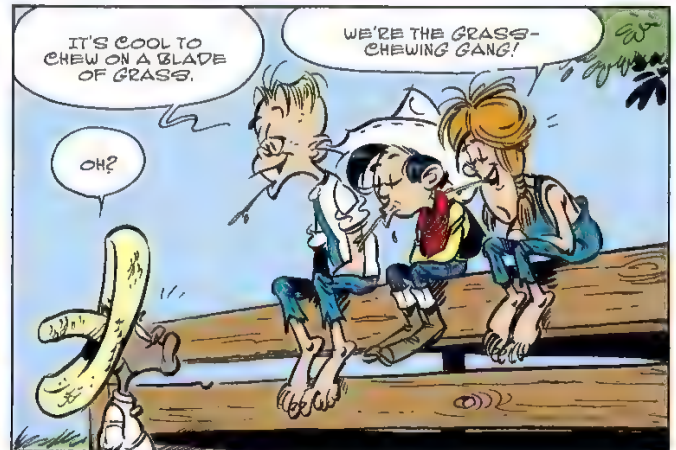
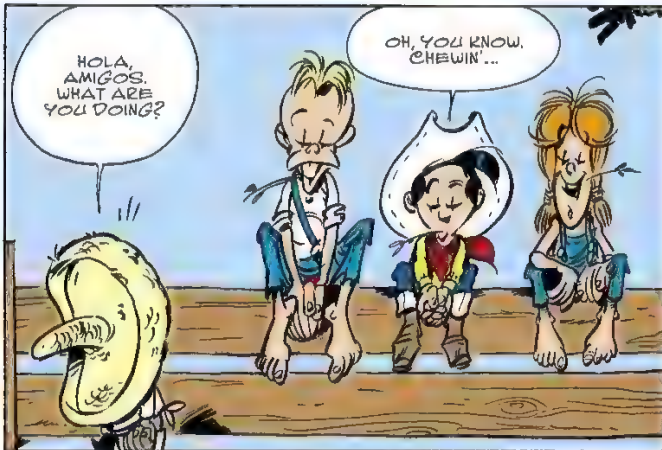
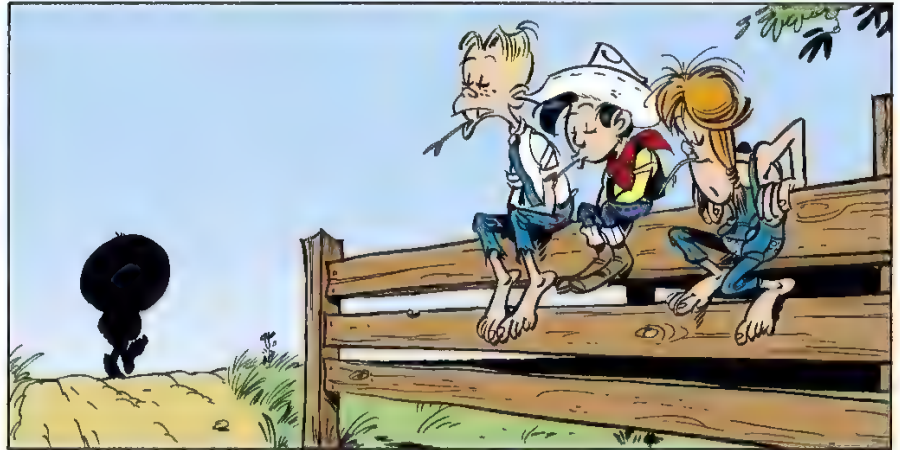
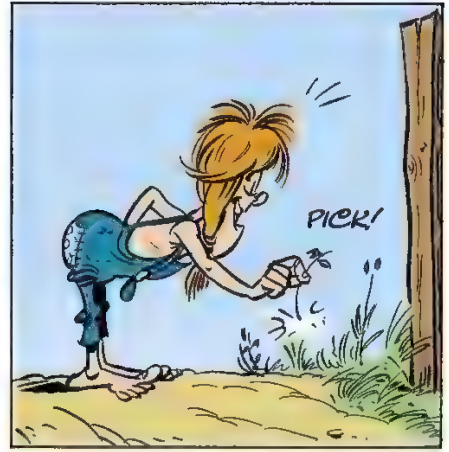
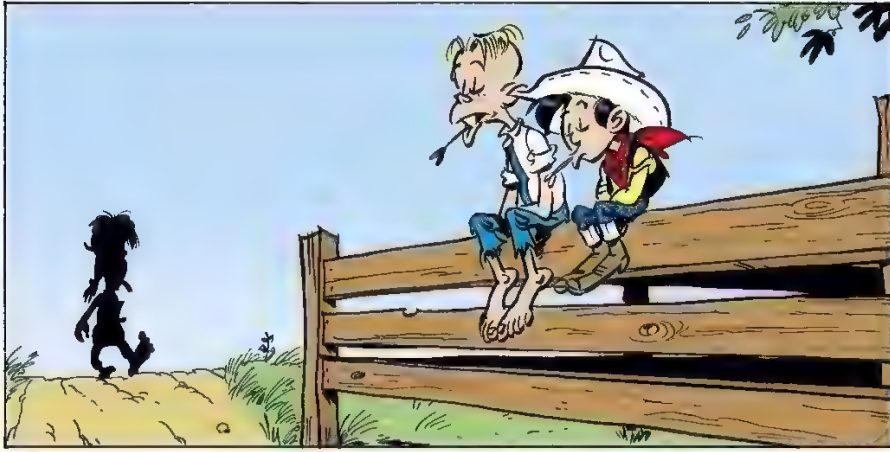
Would you believe? Trains were essential for westward expansion. By 1868, tracks crossed the United States from east to west. It was the start of a new civilization, but for the unfortunate Indian tribes, it was the end of their world.



Would you believe? A bizarre early kind of candy that appeared in the West was the "trompe-l'œil." It was made to look like an eye using cream cheese, cinnamon, and coconut, with a pine nut on top for the pupil... Sure was an attention grabber!

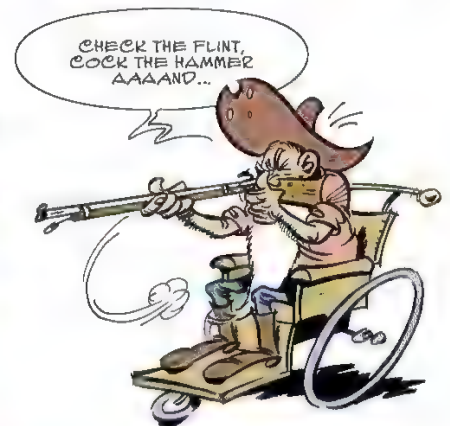
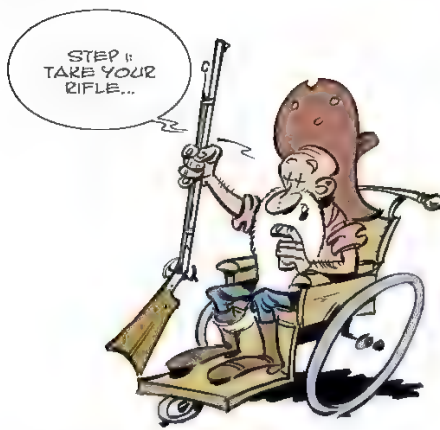


Would you believe? In the West, hoedowns were very popular. They reinforced community ties and were an opportunity to meet one's true love. Remember, there weren't nightclubs or the internet back then...

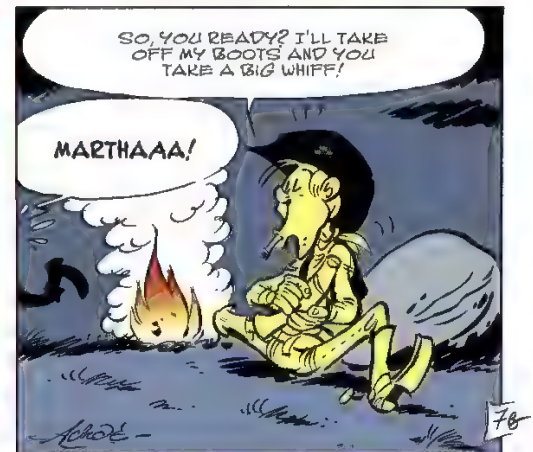
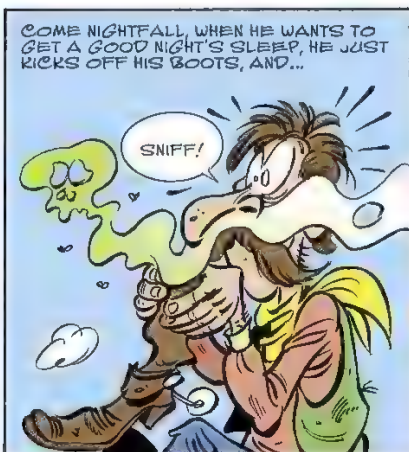
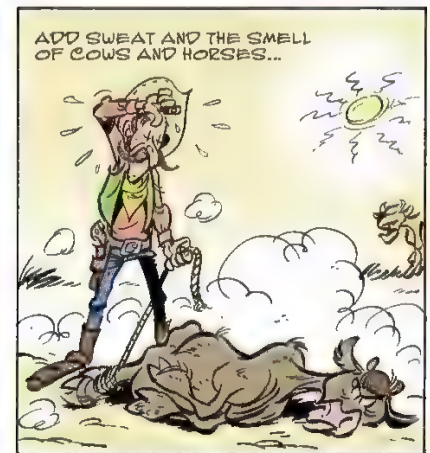
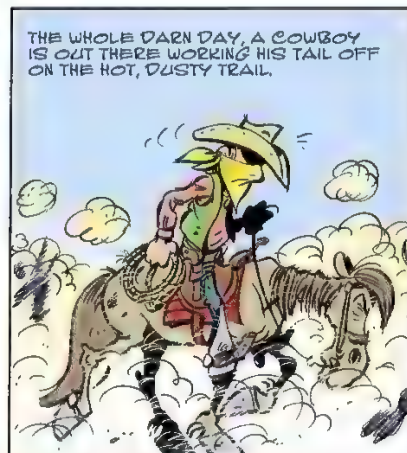
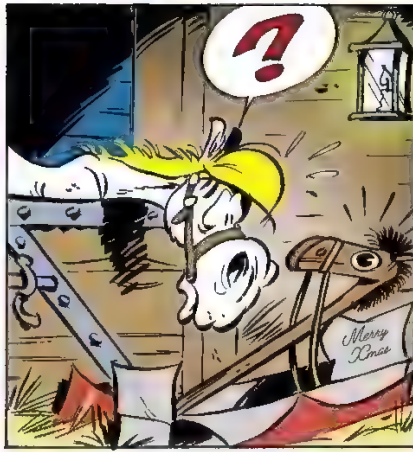


Would you believe? Puke weed was also called "Indian tobacco." It's no coincidence that people say tobacco's bad for your health!

Adrian



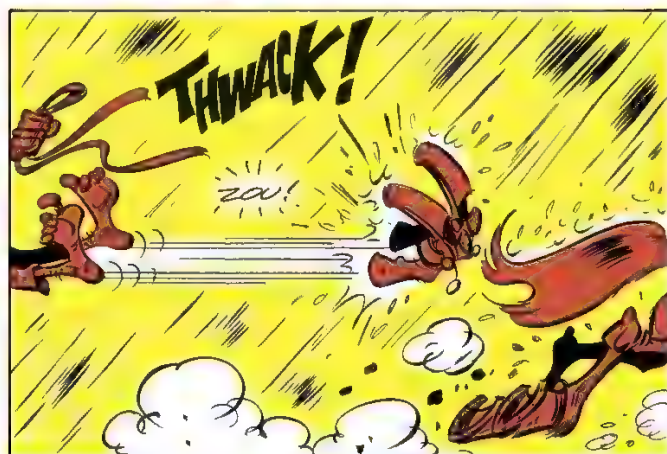
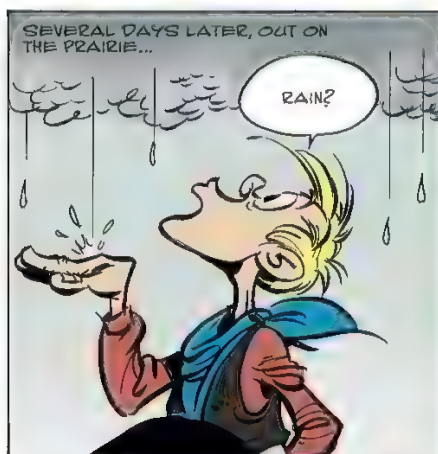
Would you believe? Reloading a rifle from the Revolutionary War would easily take more than a minute. It was best not to waste any time, especially because in those days, armies fought lined-up and face-to-face. Good lord, is war ever stupid!



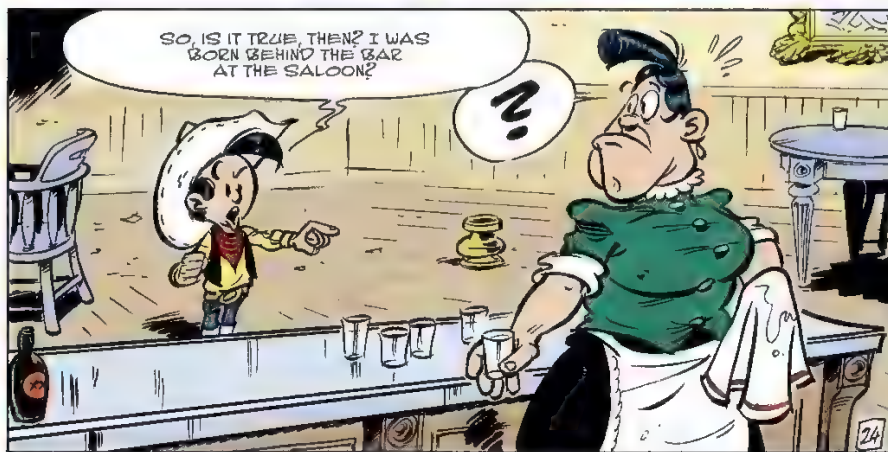
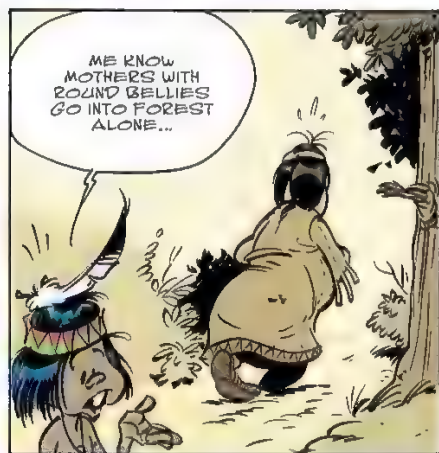
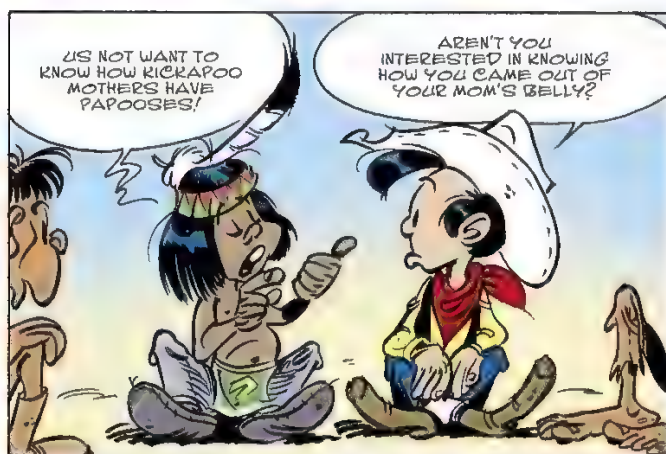
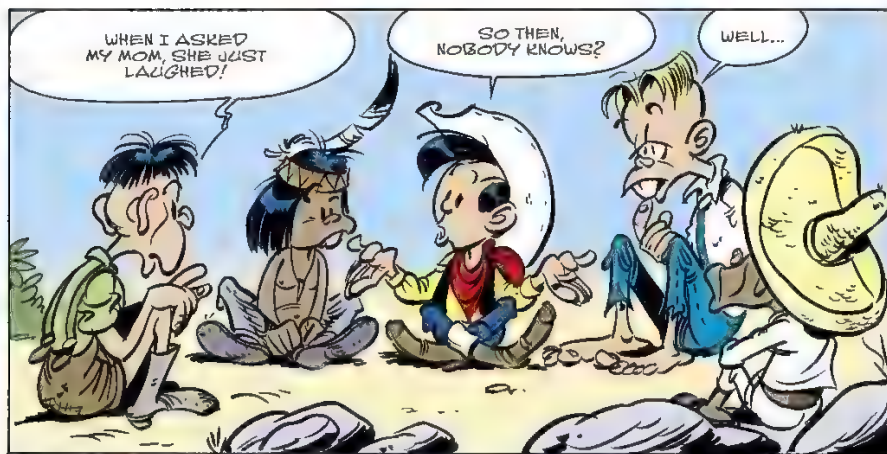
Would you believe? When cowboys got to town after weeks of driving cattle, they'd take the opportunity to have a bath. In order to save money, they'd use one bathtubful for ten cowboys. It was best to be the first to use that bath water!



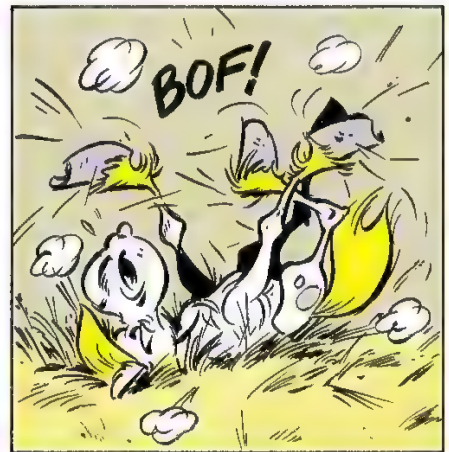
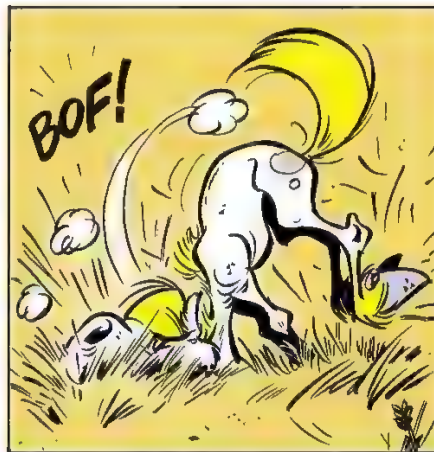
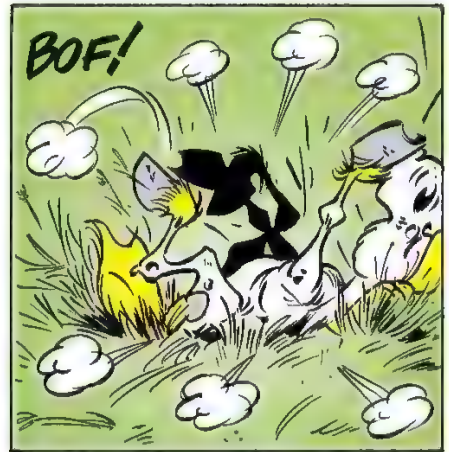
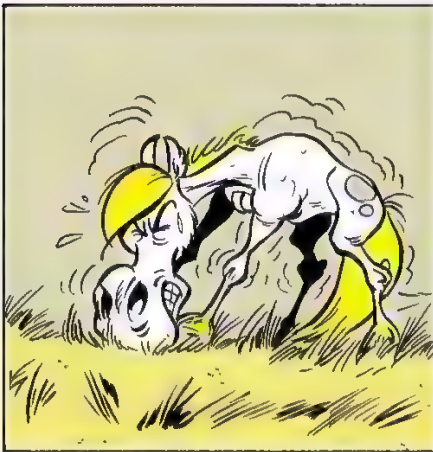
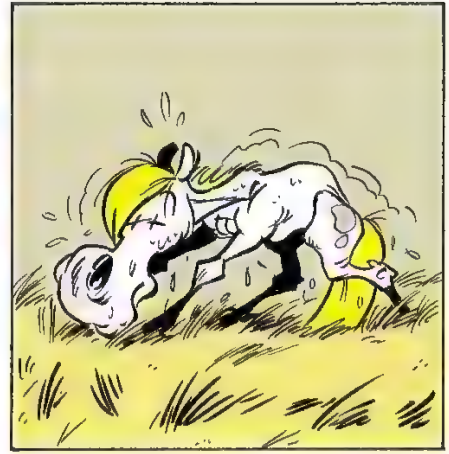
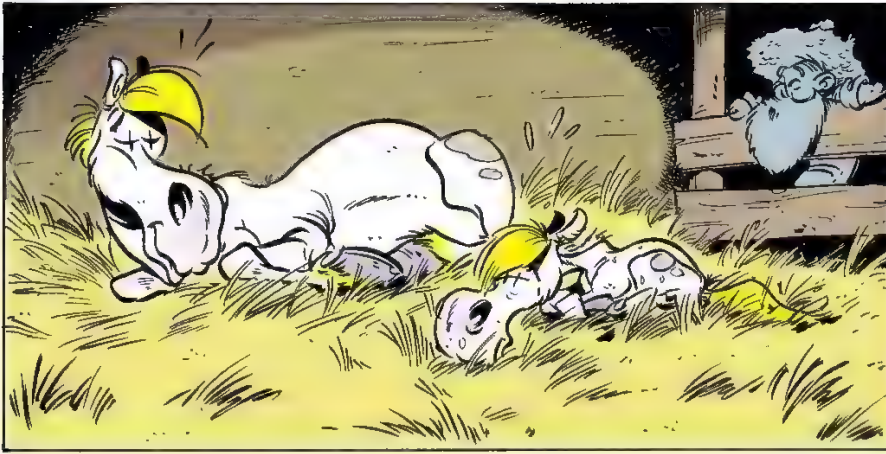
Would you believe? During frontier times, it wasn't uncommon for dramatic conflicts between ranchers and farmers to erupt, and often, ranchers' herds ended up inside farmers' houses. To learn more, read Lucky Luke's adventures in *Barbed Wire on the Prairie*.



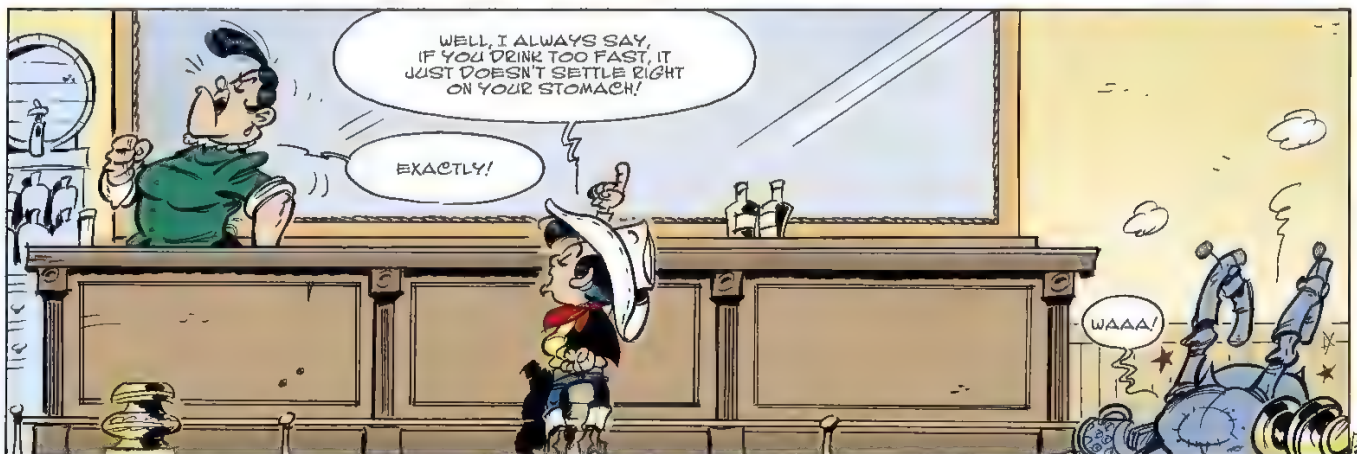
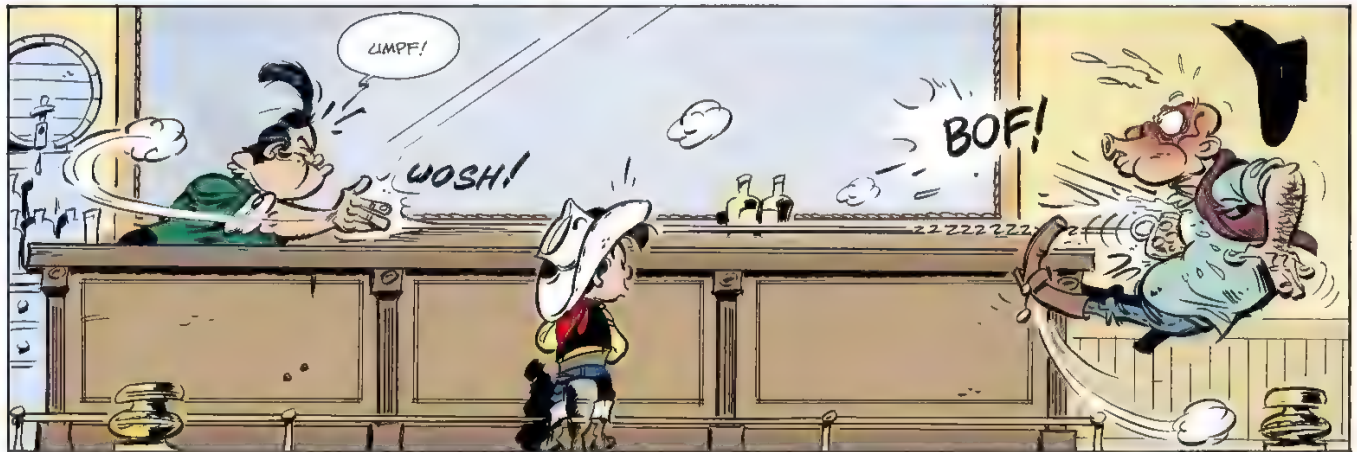
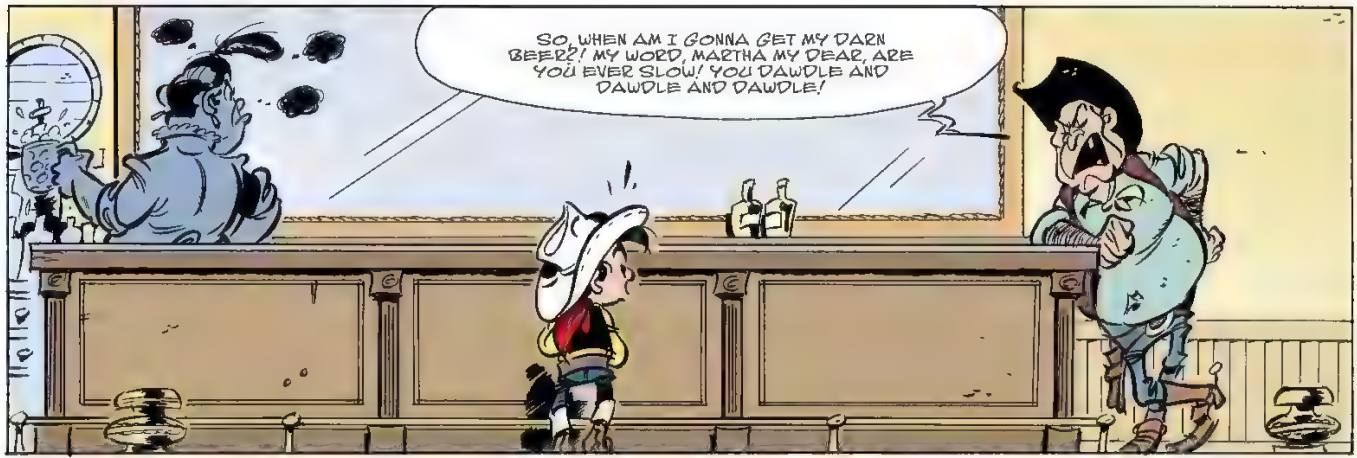
Would you believe? To protect us from the rain, people have made overcoats from tightly woven wool, oiled leather, bamboo, and palm fronds. A Scottish chemist, Charles Macintosh, invented the rubber raincoat in 1823, and the Frenchman Léon-Claude Duhamel came up with his own stylish anorak, the K-Way, in 1965.



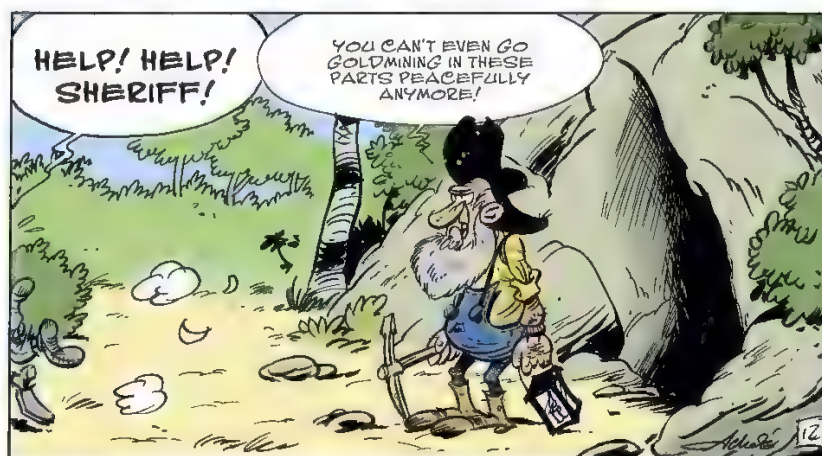
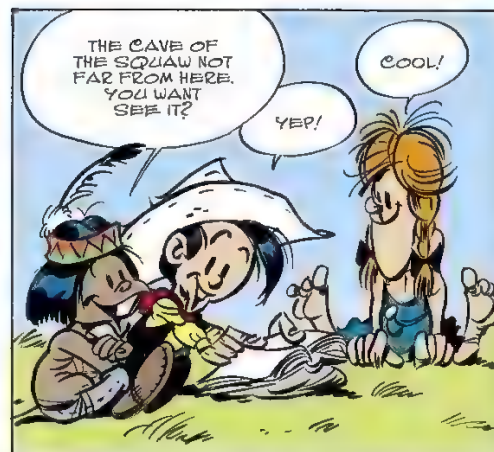
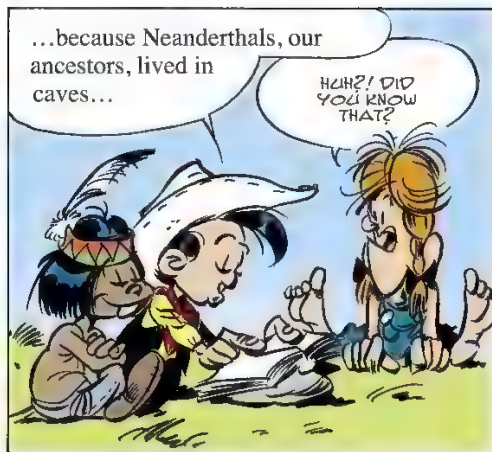
Would you believe? The women of the Plains Indian tribes were very brave. If they went into labor while the tribe was migrating, they would leave the group and go off alone to give birth, then catch up with the others on foot immediately after the child was born.



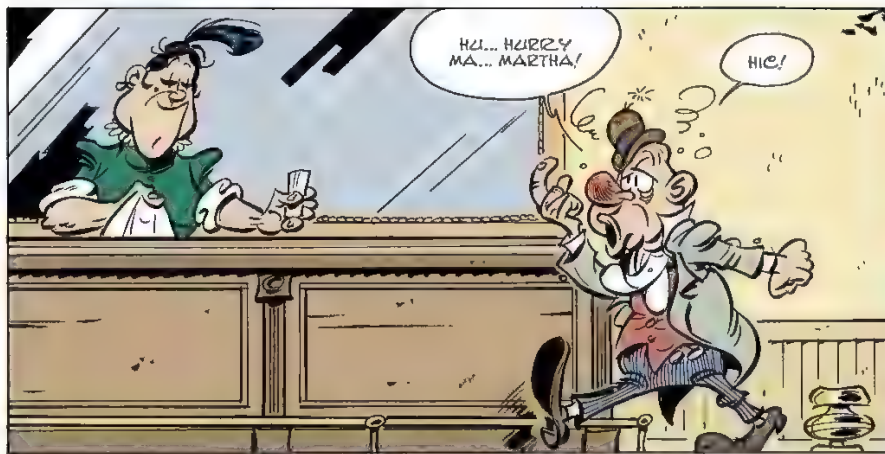
Would you believe? Jolly Jumper is an American breed of horse called a quarter horse, which means he has Spanish, English, and Chickasaw blood in his veins. This is undoubtedly why he's so good at playing chess and cooking beans!



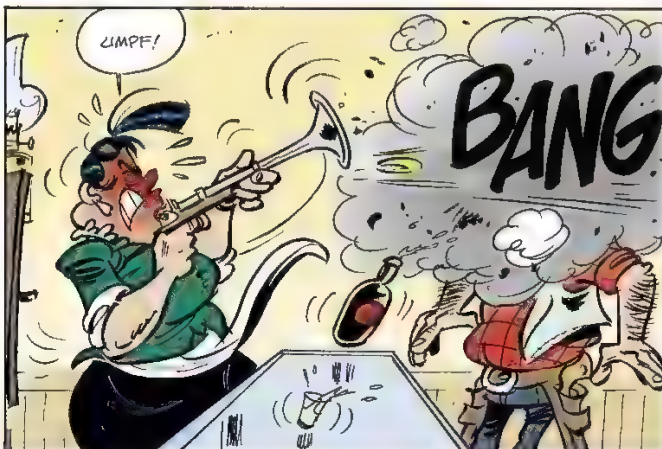
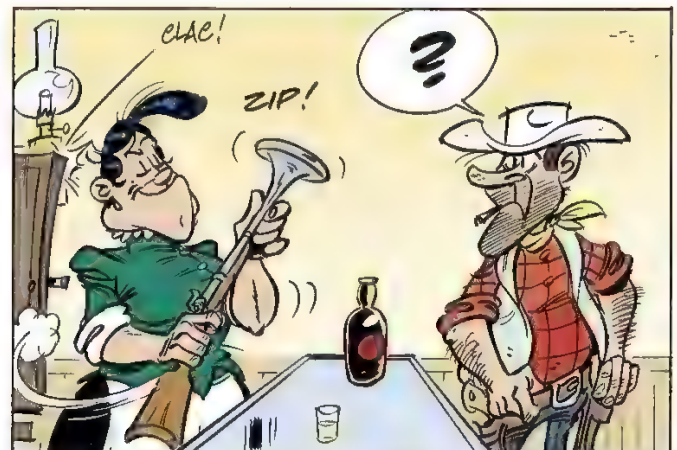
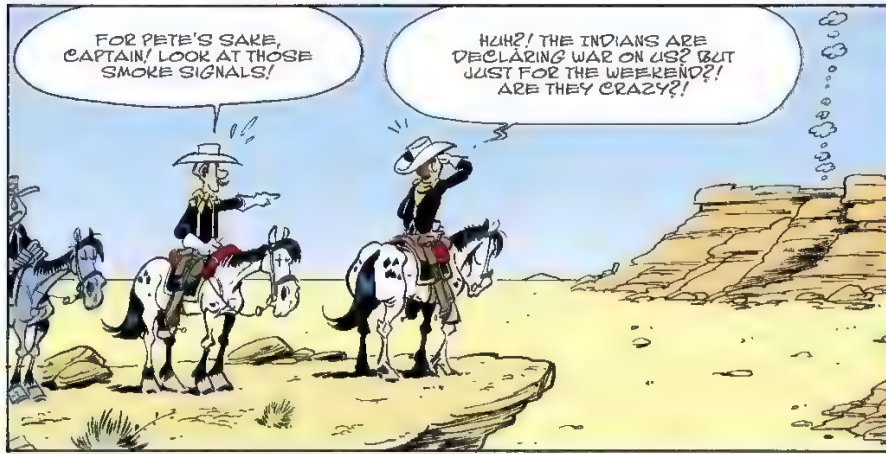
Would you believe? Some polished zinc bar tops would allow the bartender to slide glasses down to the customer. When you consider that a big mug could weigh more than two pounds, the bartenders were real athletes!



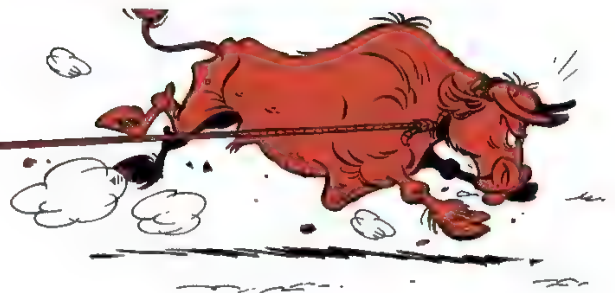
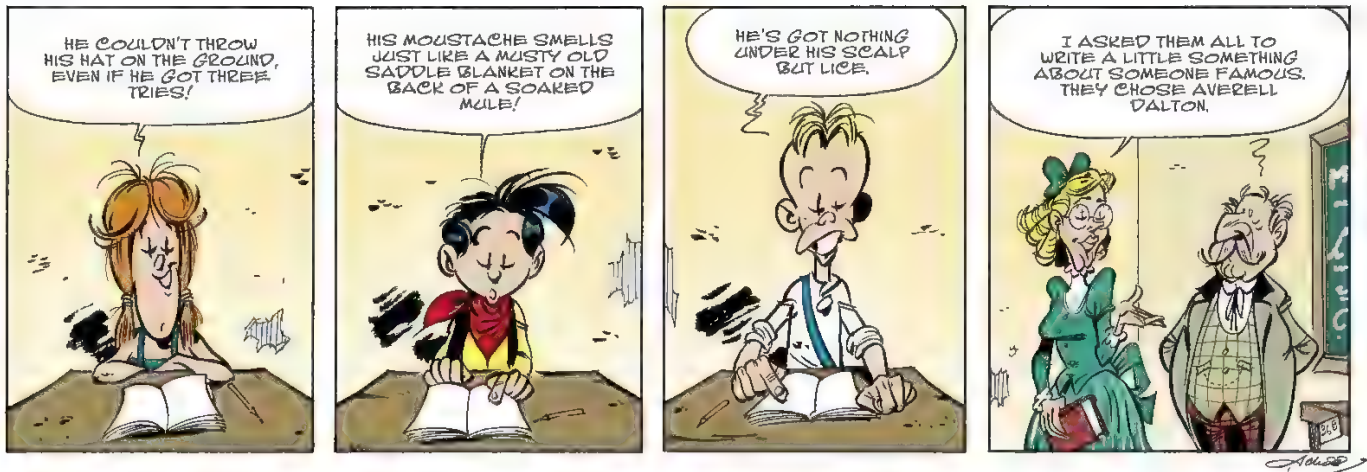
Would you believe? In the US, you can still come across abandoned mines dating from the gold rush (not to mention, silver, copper, and tin rush) days. The desire for riches turned some mountains into Swiss cheese!



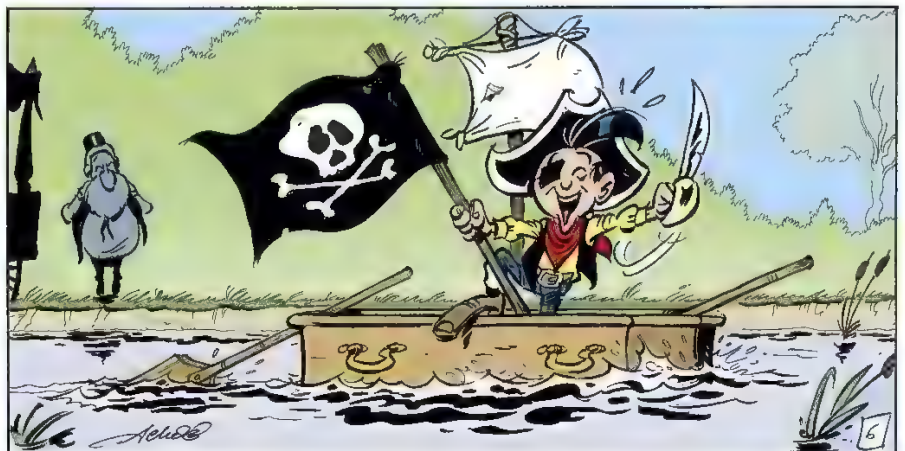
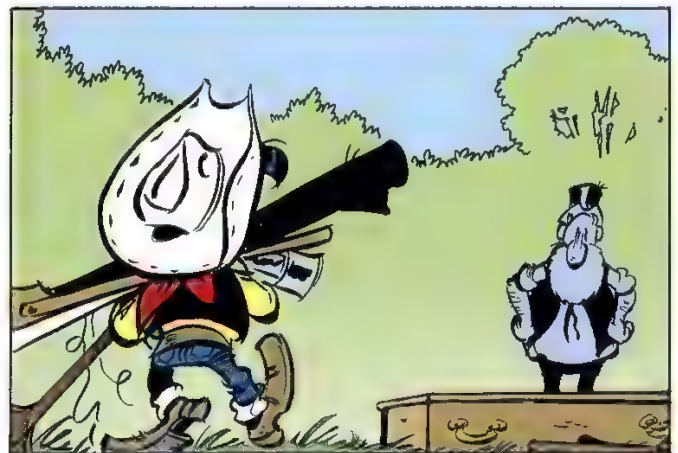
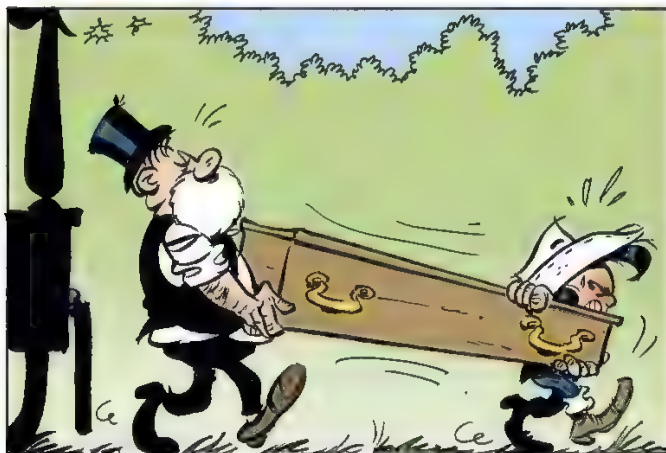
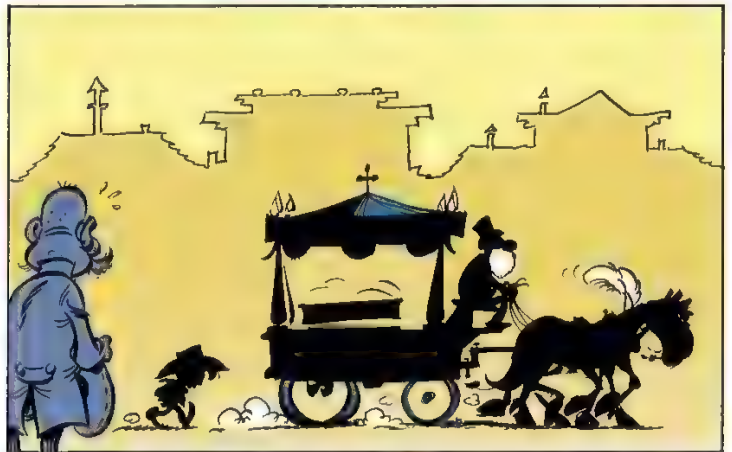
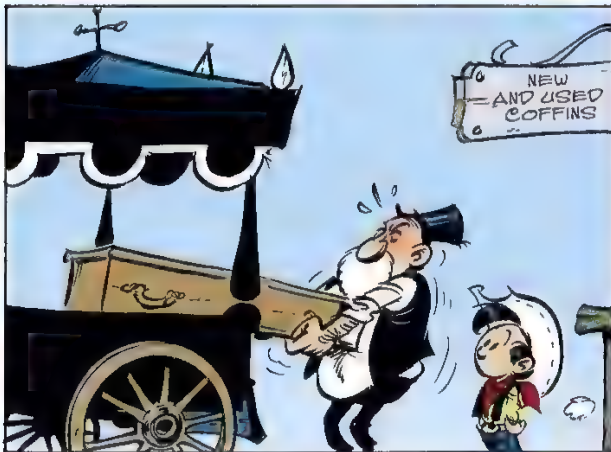
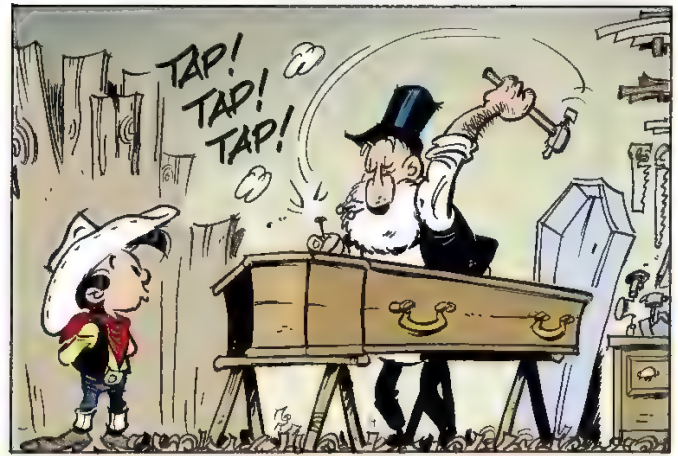
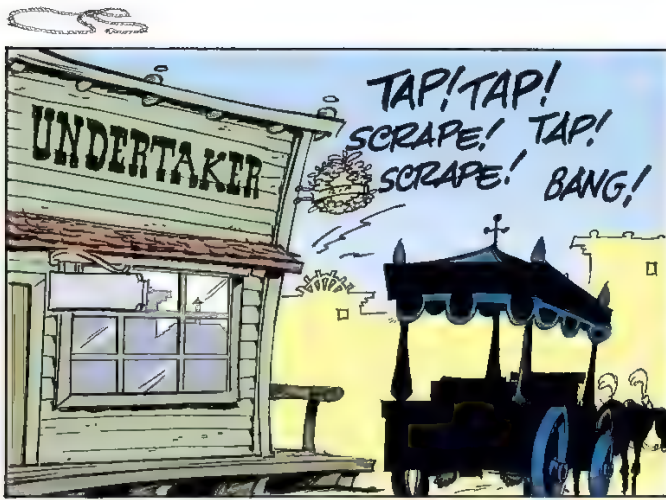
Would you believe? Skunks are able to spray a horrendous smell at their aggressors. The only remedy against their odor: taking a bath in tomato juice. Alternatively, one chemist developed a deodorizer made from bleach, sodium bicarbonate, and soap!



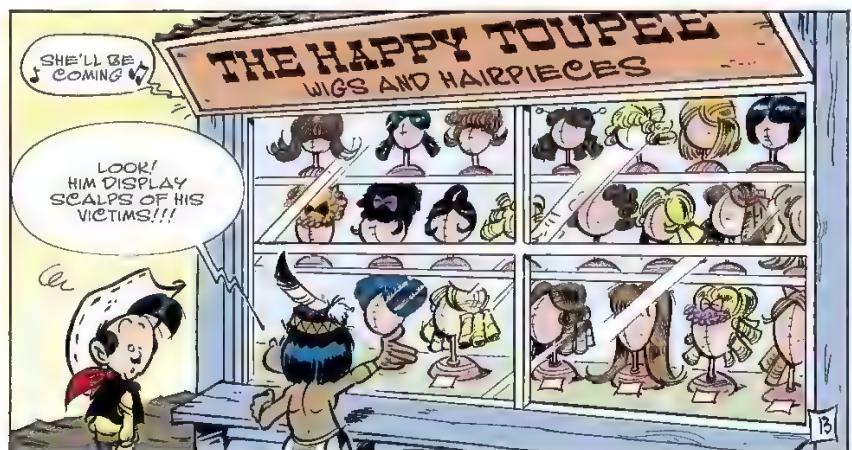
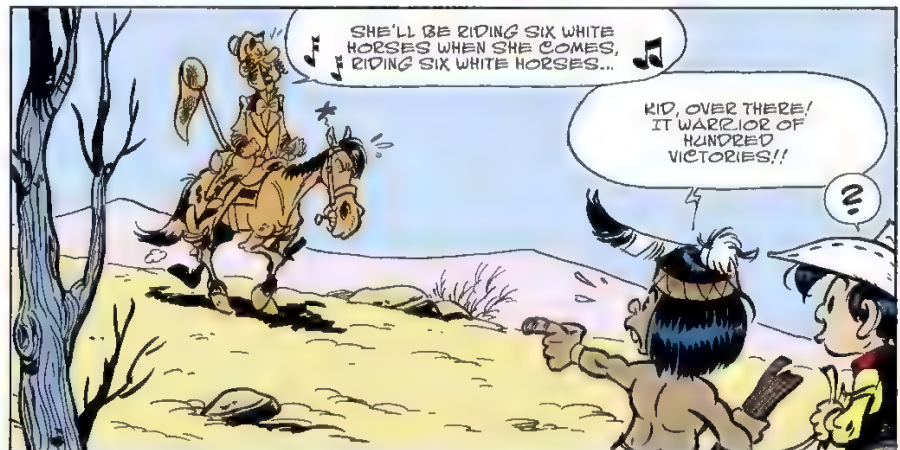
Would you believe? Saloons made a lot of money because they were often the only spot in town for entertainment. You could drink, dance, play cards, and watch live shows!



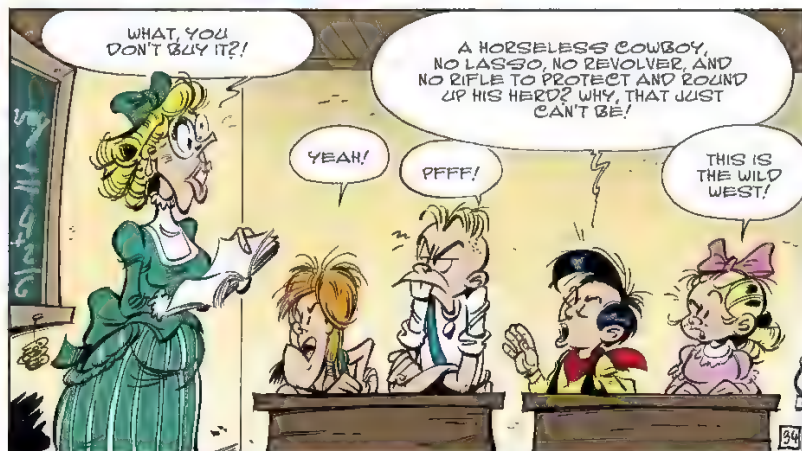
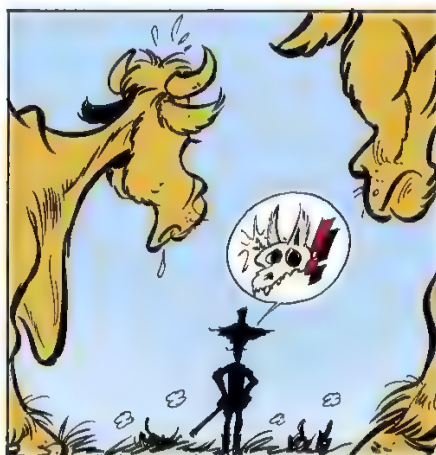
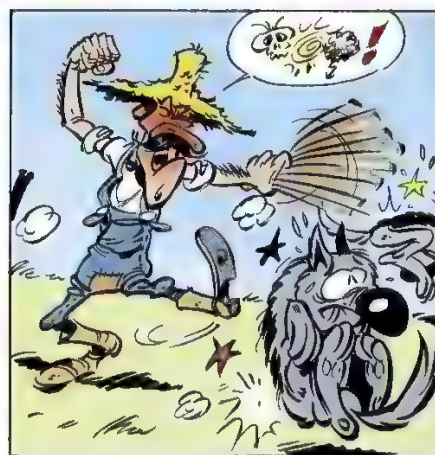
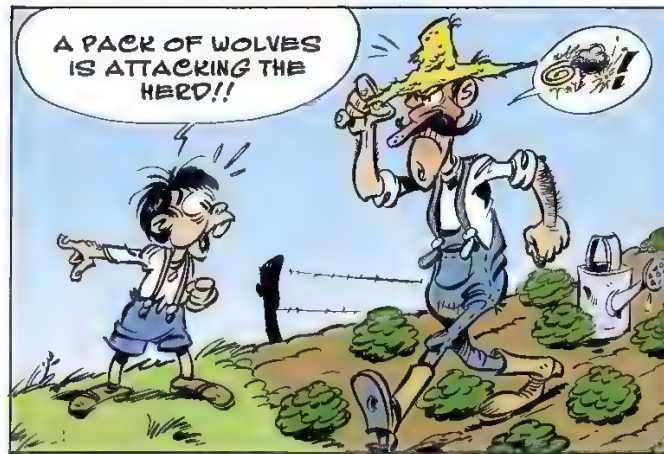
Would you believe? No, Santa Claus is not the invention of an American soda company. "Sinterklaas" came over in the luggage of Dutch immigrants, and "Santa Claus" is a deformation of the original Dutch name. It was the illustrator Robert Weir who first drew him in his red outfit in 1838.



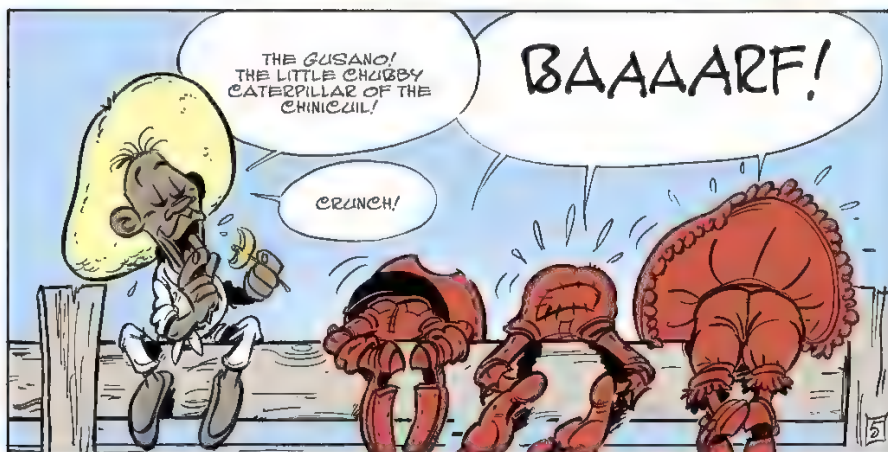
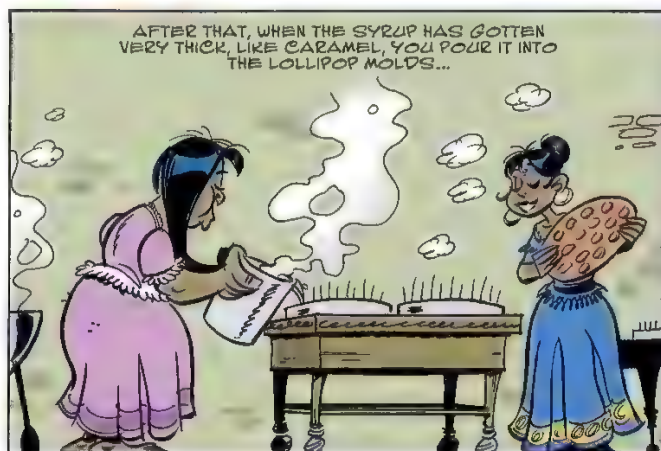
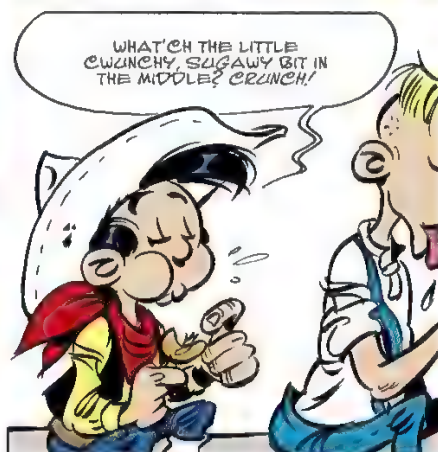
Would you believe? In the West, the undertaker was just as important as the blacksmith. He acted as cabinetmaker, carpenter and, of course, undertaker. He was also often the only doctor around, but he wasn't very effective. I wonder why...



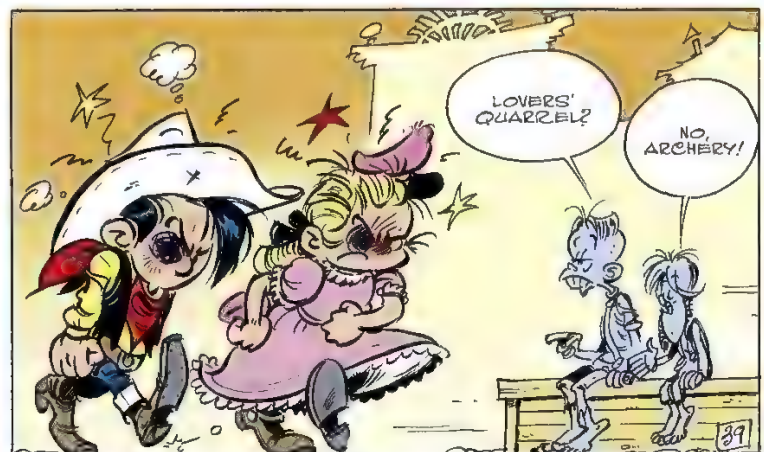
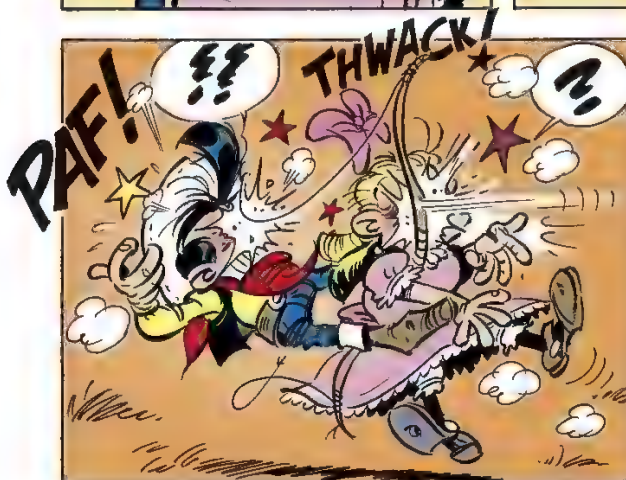
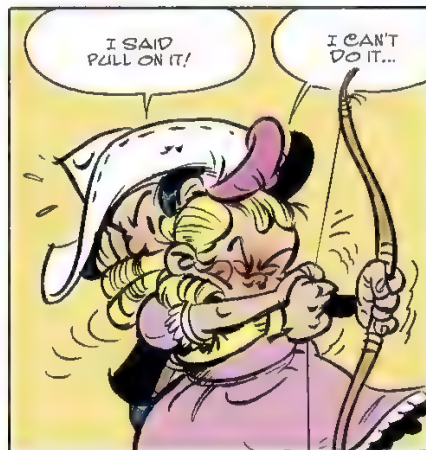
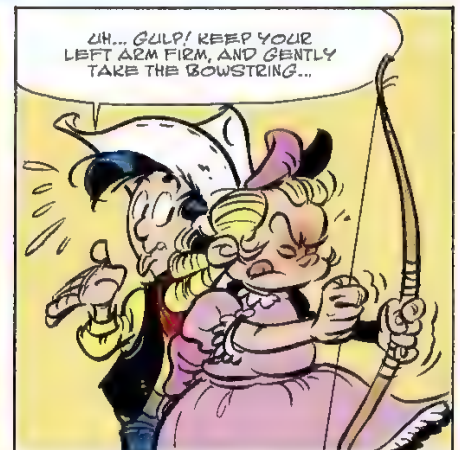
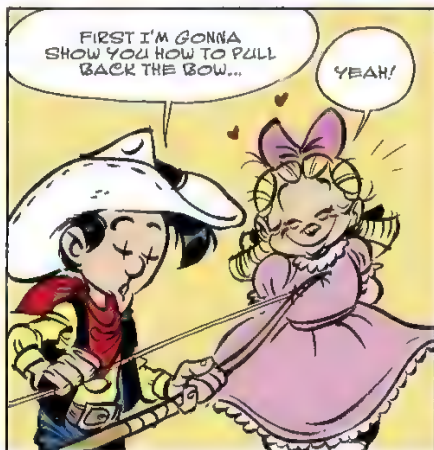
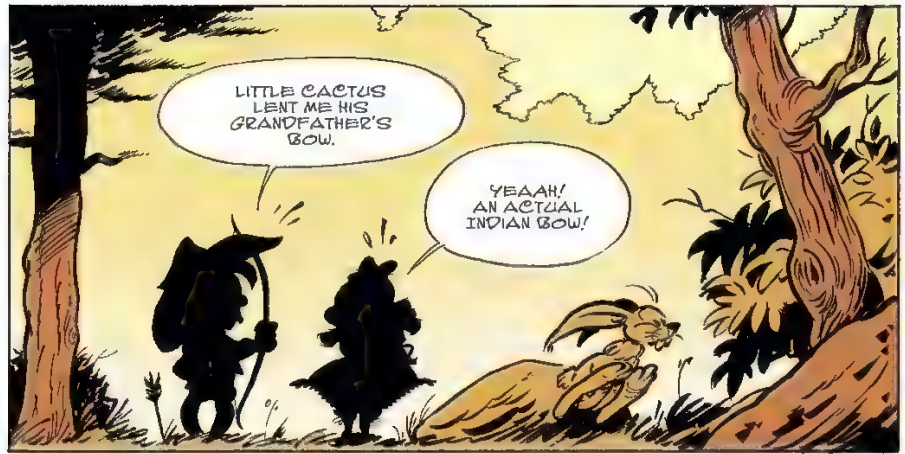
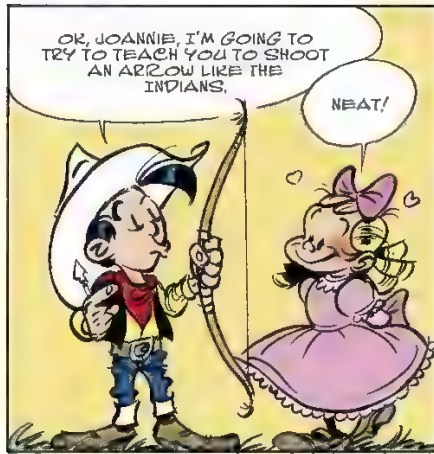
Would you believe? In Old French, "top" meant the top of your head, and the word "toupet" (and later "toupee") was used to describe a clump of hair that grew there. Eventually, it came to mean a wig. Now that's using your head!



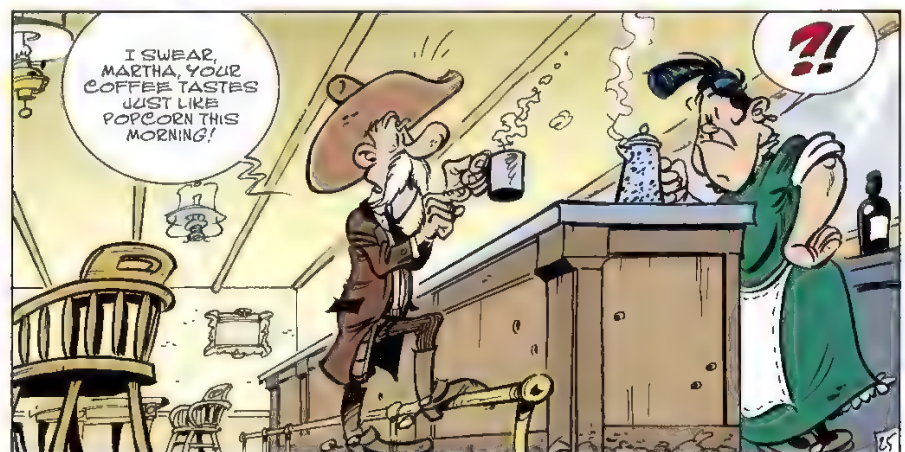
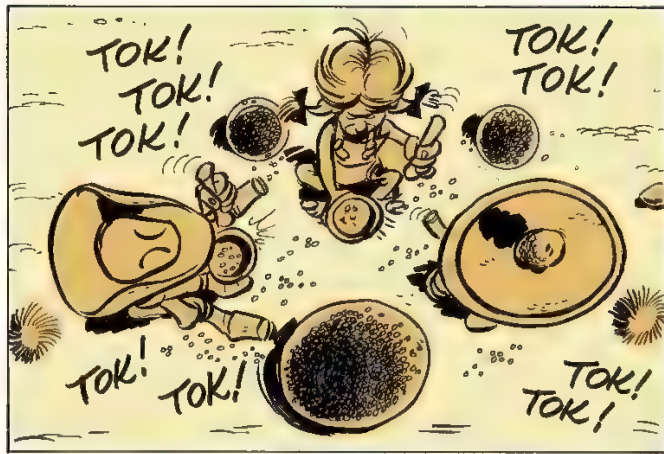
Would you believe? The Wild West isn't the only place with cowboys. There are some as far off as Guyana and New Caledonia. But they don't carry revolvers, and it's better that way.



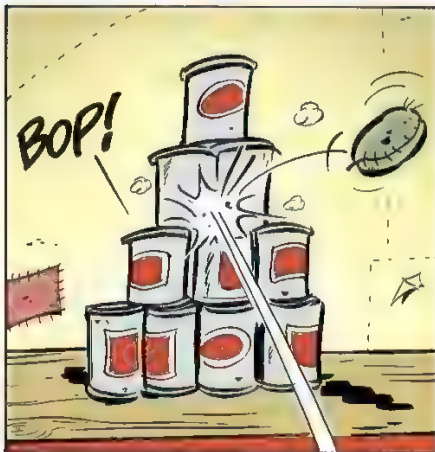
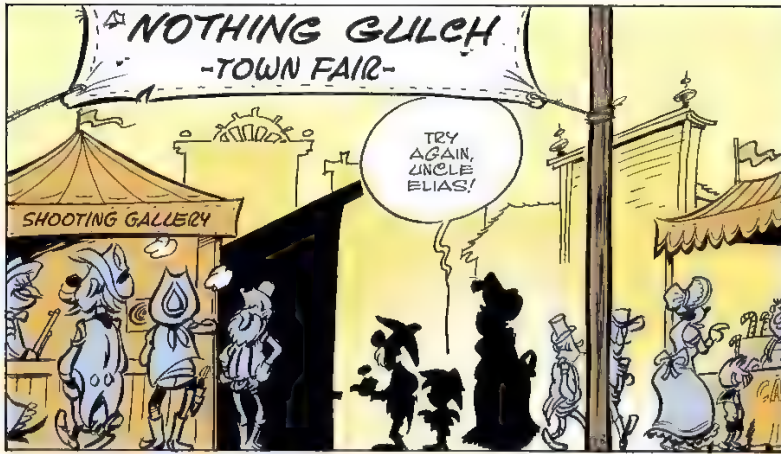
Would you believe? Nowadays, the larvae (or "worms") you find in bottles of mezcal are farm-raised. Certain distilleries prefer to put a scorpion in their bottles. It's really just a question of taste...



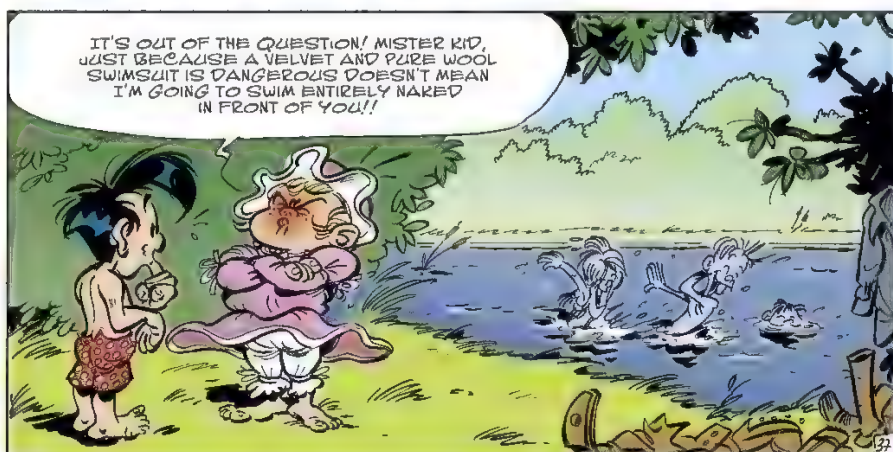
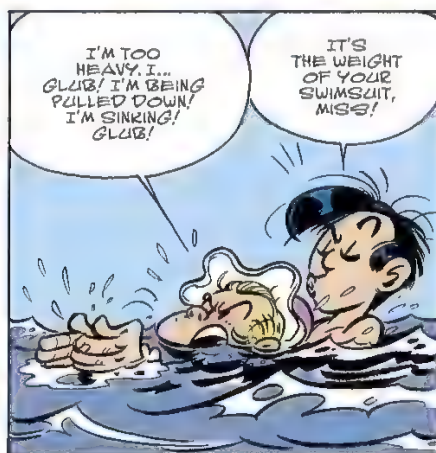
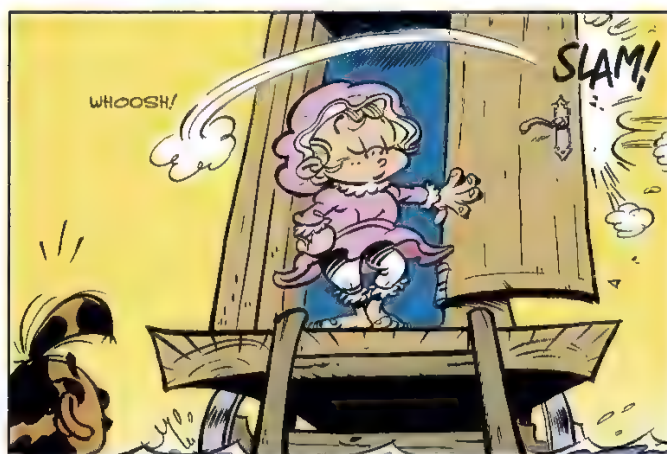
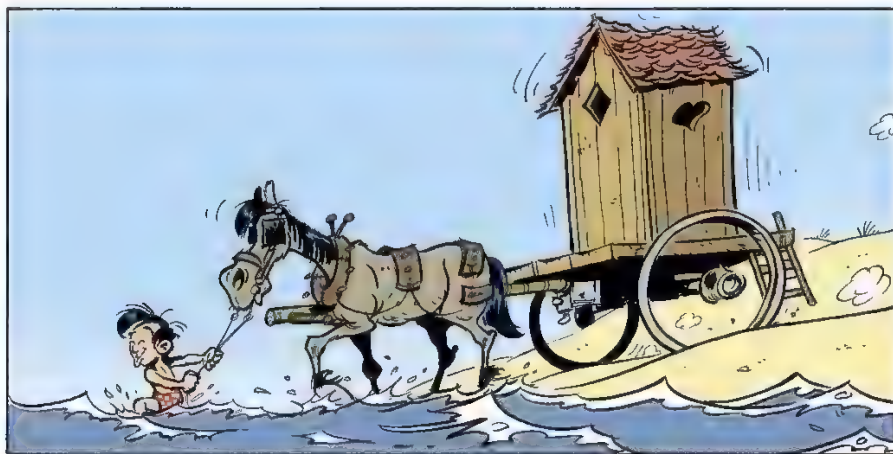
Would you believe? The INDIANS' bows were powerful. They could propel an arrow nearly 200 yards, and from under 30 yards, an arrow could pass through a buffalo!



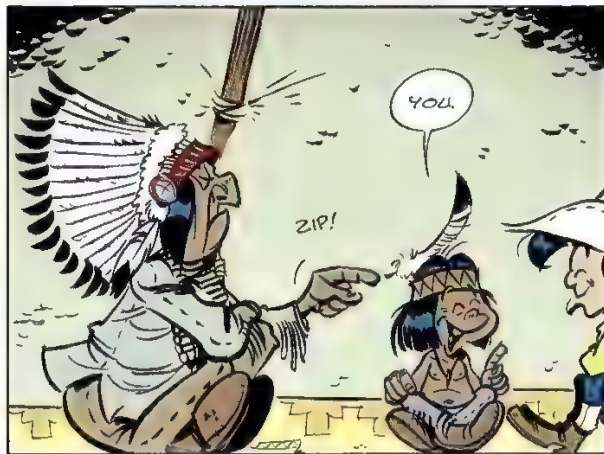
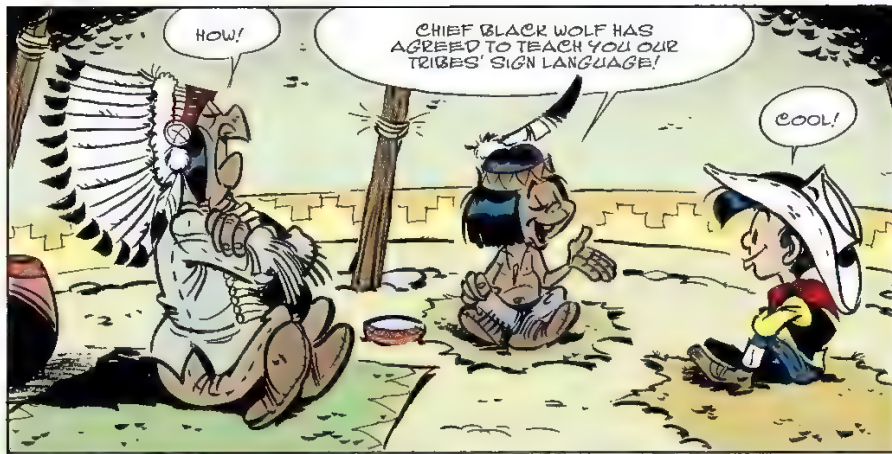
Would you believe? 100 pounds of cornflour, five gallons of water, and a special oven were needed to make the world's biggest tortilla. It took longer to cook it than to eat it!



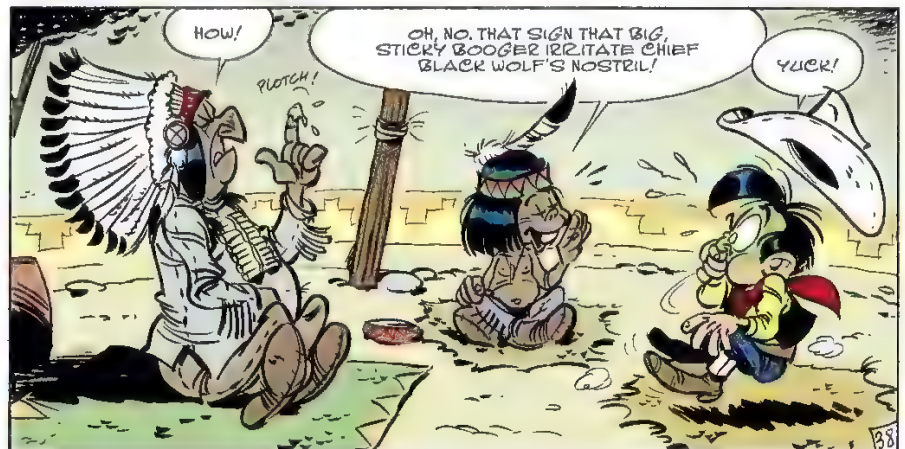
Would you believe? During stock shows in the West, they'd organize shooting and log-chopping contests, horseshoe games or, like here, a bag toss. Just like in Europe, stock shows were the forerunners of the county fair.



Would you believe? In the 19th century, ladies swam in six-piece swimsuits. That's a long way off from bikinis and sun lotion!

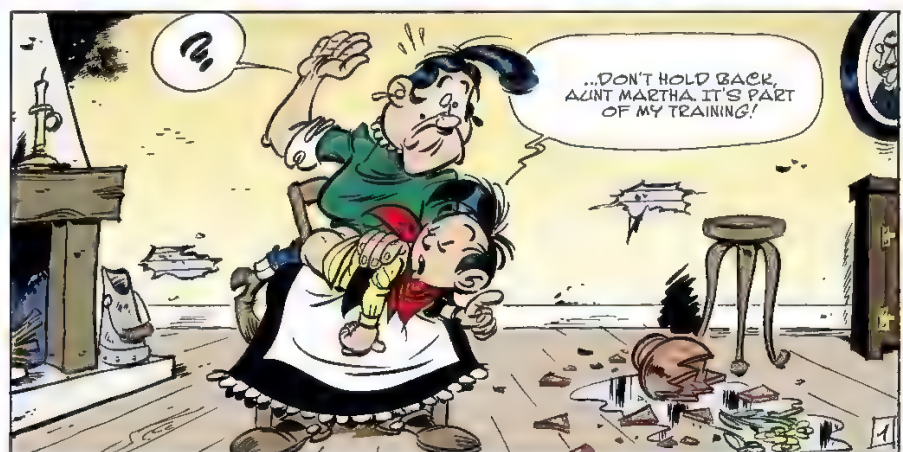
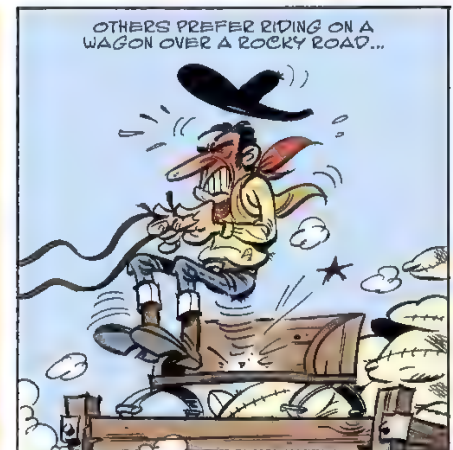
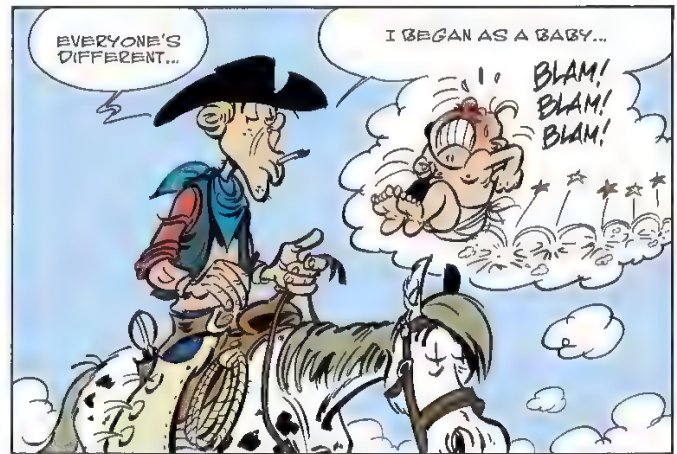


*QUESTION-YOU-ARE-CALLED

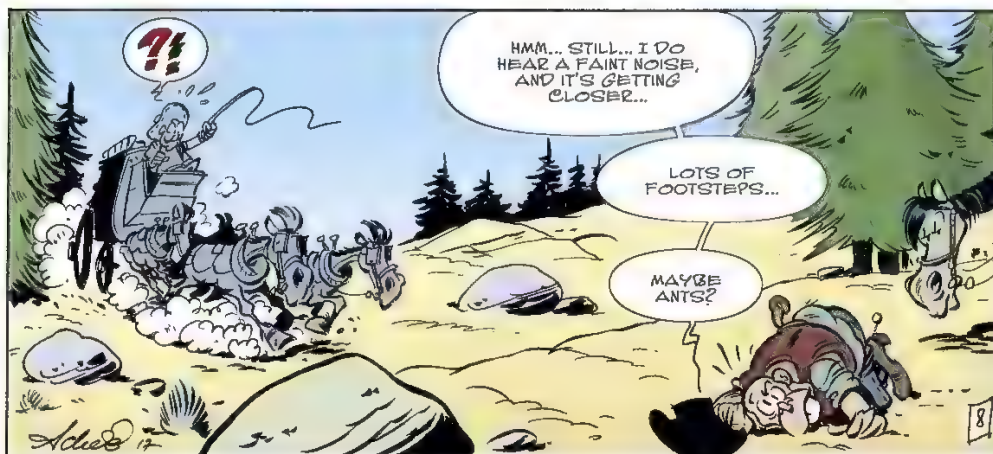
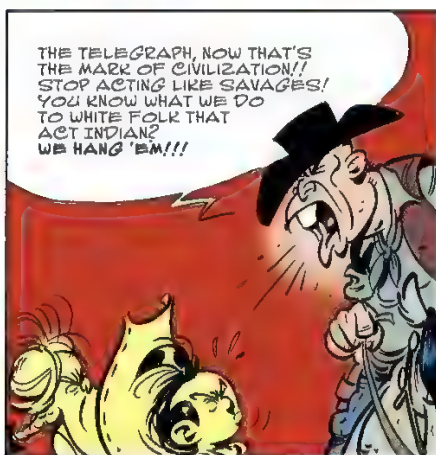
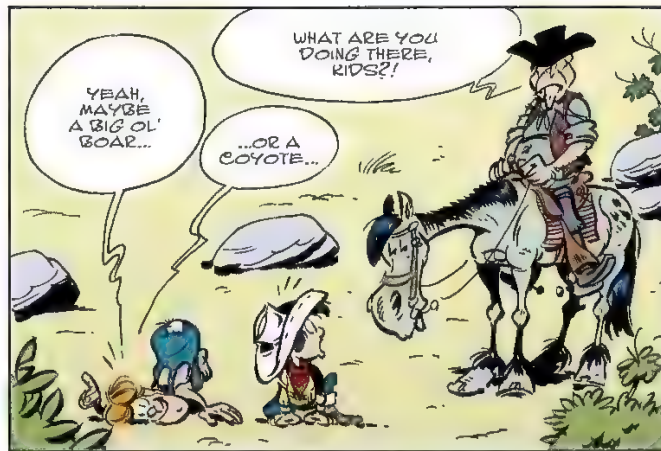
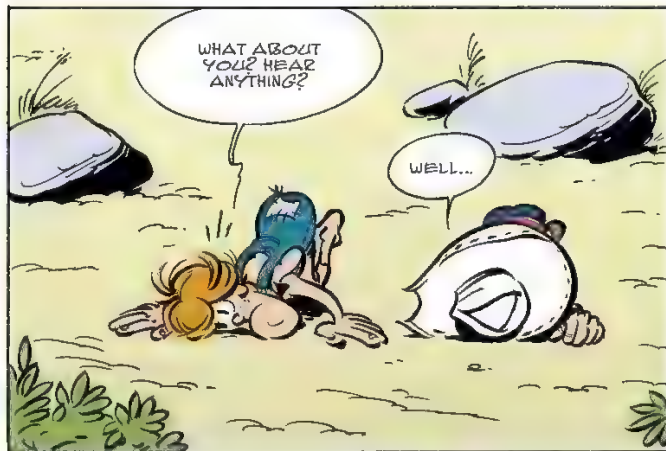


Would you believe? Before the arrival of Europeans, INDIANS didn't all speak the same language. So, for the purposes of trade, they used a common sign language. French fur traders were the first to learn this language in order to make their exploration of the West easier.

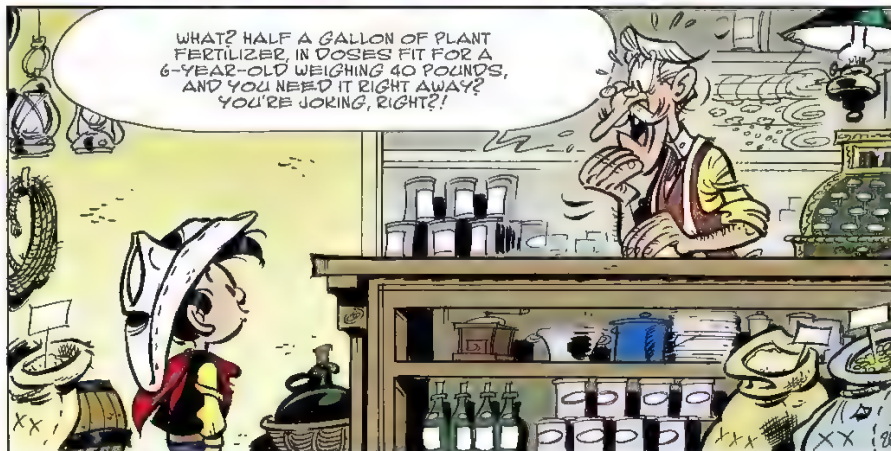
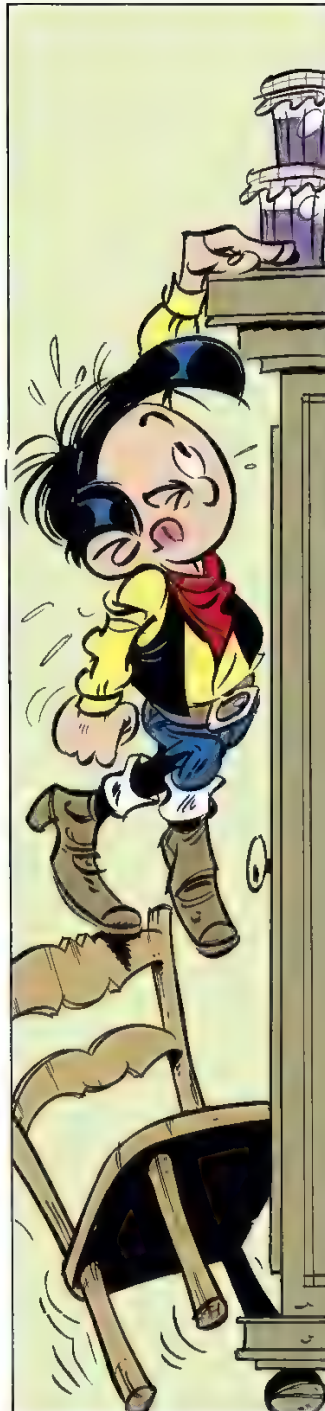
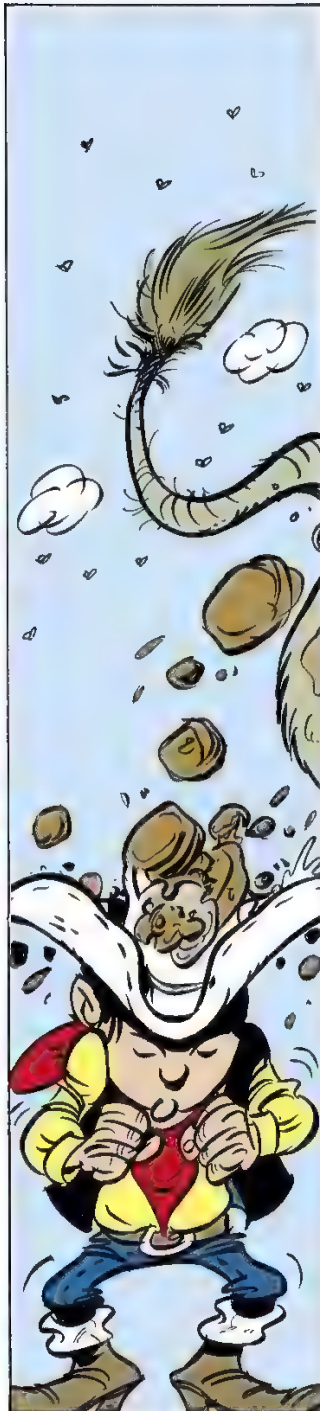
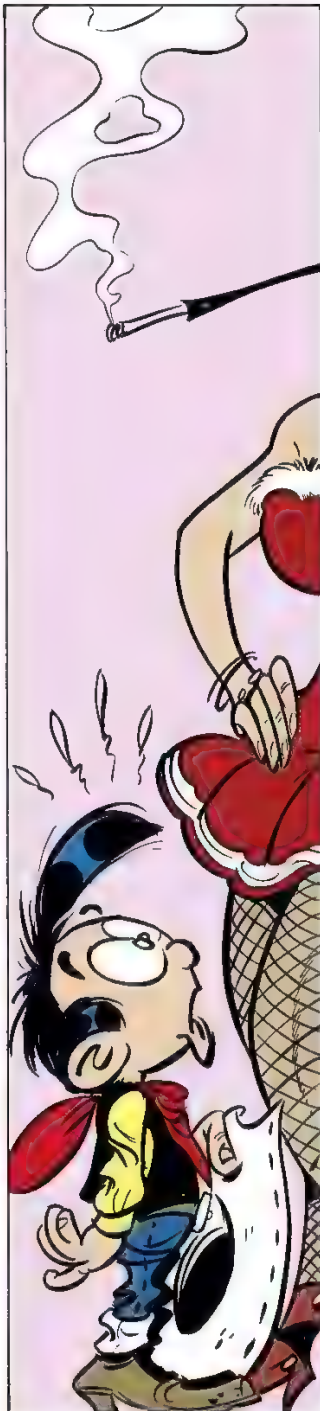
Alfred



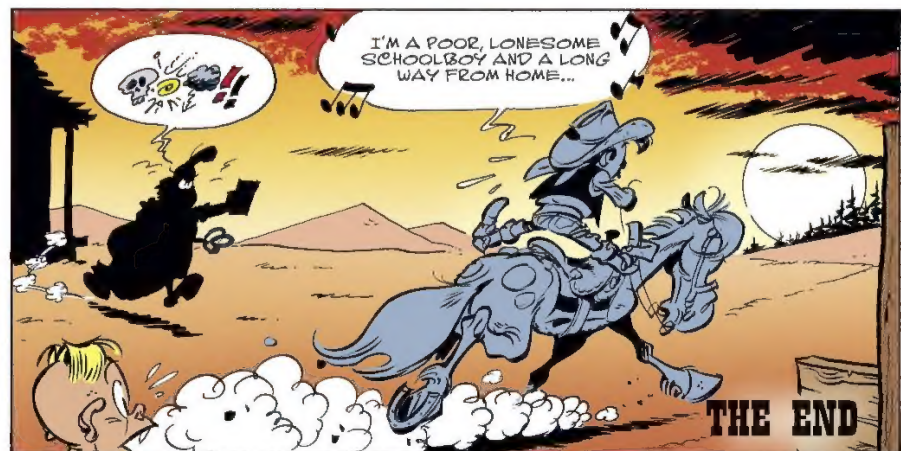
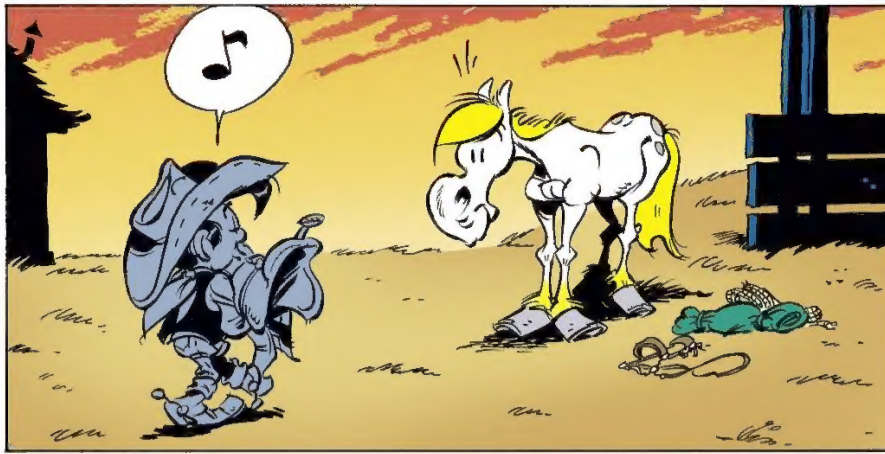
Would you believe? Cowboys often made very long journeys, driving hundreds of heads of cattle to railway yards. If they thought their behinds were sore, just imagine how sore the horses' hooves must have been!



Would you believe? INDIANS had excellent hearing, precise vision, and a great sense of smell. Still, not everyone can tell exactly when a train is pulling in just by putting their ears on the tracks...



Would you believe? A German chemist discovered the formula for chemical fertilizer in 1840, and it was an Englishman, John Bennet Lawes, who first produced it from bones and sulfuric acid. People weren't too ecologically minded back then!



Would you believe? For those who haven't read volume one of the adventures of Kid Lucky (*Cowboy in Training*), it was Sam who gave us the famous "poor, lonesome cowboy" song. Babies absorb everything...



Morris, comics prodigy!

The father of Lucky Luke was born in 1923 in Courtrai, Belgium. After starting off in cartoon studios, he created Lucky Luke, his universe, and the series' main characters. Their adventures first appeared in *L'Almanach de Spirou* in 1947. He then spent several years criss-crossing the United States with his friends André Franquin and Joseph Gillain, as well as the stars of the satirical **Mad Magazine**, Kurtzman, Davis, and Wood. During this time *Lucky Luke* was quickly becoming one of the must-reads of French comics thanks to the simple, expressive, and effective illustrations of its creator. Morris's gift for turning a phrase left us with such expressions as "the man who shoots faster than his shadow" and "the ninth art" (i.e. comics).

Ten albums later, he met the great René Goscinny, who became his writer for nearly 40 volumes. Several more were to follow. The saga of the lone cowboy, as imagined by Morris, now comprises nearly 90 volumes. From boyhood he was consumed by a passion for cinema and animation, and he worked closely on the numerous adaptations of his work.

During production of the last 52 episodes of the cartoon *The New Adventures of Lucky Luke*, Morris passed away, on July 16th, 2001. He will remain one of comics' all-time greats. His characters and universe have become eternal.

It was impossible not to continue the adventures of Lucky Luke, both grown up and little! In *Kid Lucky*, Achdé tells the story of the birth of a legend, the education of a cowboy knee-high to a grasshopper who's always ready to discover the ways of the West, the essentials of proud pioneer life, and, most of all, how to have fun with his friends.

* Caricature of Morris by the artist himself.

For Phil Ostermann, who chose the
Far East, kangaroos, snakes, sharks,
spiders, crocodiles... and the
French language.

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